FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 APRIL 1987

Israel and the Soviet Union

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov downplayed reports of major changes in Soviet policy toward Israel in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio 2 April. He denied a Radio Luxembourg report that Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres will be invited to visit Moscow soon and stressed that no agreement has been reached on allowing emigrants to fly to Israel either directly from the USSR or via Romania. While confirming that a Soviet consular delegation may visit Israel soon, Gerasimov maintained that "there should be no talk about a reciprocal visit by an Israel delegation to Moscow," and he denied any connection between the consular delegation and the establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel. In a similar vein, a high-level Soviet official earlier told KUNA that the rumored "improvement" in Israeli-Soviet relations is "unfounded and aims at poisoning Arab-Soviet relations."

The report of a Soviet invitation for Peres to visit Moscow was also dismissed by Peres' office, which said it "knows nothing whatsoever" about the invitation, according to Jerusalem radio. Meanwhile, Peres and Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir discussed the possibility of an imminent "mass emigration" of Jews from the USSR, Jerusalem television disclosed, noting that officials in Shamir's office said the possibility "should be taken seriously."

Lebanon

Palestinian Camps — Four children and five wounded persons died of hunger and lack of medicine in Shatila camp 1 April, according to a PNSF communique cited by the clandestine Voice of the People radio. The serious situation in Shatila was highlighted by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat during a news conference broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. Noting the lack of food, medicine, and water in the camp, he claimed that the Amal Movement has threatened to carry out a "massacre" if it does not surrender. Shatila is "dying" and the PLO holds the Syrian regime responsible, 'Arafat added. In a related development, Algiers Voice of Palestine radio noted that 'Arafat sent a message on the siege of the camps to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. The Palestinian committee administering Shatila also appealed to Gorbachev for help, Beirut radio disclosed. A joint statement by Fatah and four other Palestinian factions called on Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to intervene to lift the siege of Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah, Radio Monte Carlo noted.

Christian Policies — There are no contacts between the Lebanese Forces (LF) and the Syrians, and the LF will oppose whoever is supported by Syria in the Lebanese presidential election of 1988, LF commander Samir Ja'ja' stated in an interview published by London's *Al-Hawadith* 27 March. As for the possible reopening of Beirut Airport, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon broadcast a Lebanese Front statement that warned Prime Minister Rashid Karami against taking any unilateral step without consulting all parties concerned.

PLO Affairs

During "important" talks with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir invited the Libyan leader to attend the upcoming PNC session in Algiers, a Palestinian source disclosed in a statement reported by Algiers Voice of Palestine radio. Al-Wazir also held talks with other Palestinian faction leaders during his recent visit to Tripoli, the radio said, noting his statement that Palestinian leaders will begin "continuous working sessions and meetings" in Algiers as of 5 April.

Regarding the dispute between Yasir 'Arafat and Syrian President al-Asad, the UAE's *Al-Ittihad* cited a report that the USSR is among several countries trying to mediate, adding that Palestinian-Syrian relations will be a main topic during Al-Asad's forthcoming talks with Soviet leaders in Moscow, WAKH disclosed.

Chadian Conflict

GUNT leader Acheikh ibn Oumar stressed that the withdrawal of his forces from Faya-Largeau "was a tactical measure" taken to enable them to reorganize, JANA reported, citing GUNT's clandestine Bardai radio.

According to an AFP roundup of the situation in Chad, there are no Libyans south of the 20th parallel. Their positions are north of Zouar to the west of the Tibesti region, and at Gouro east of the Tibesti area. The agency cited French estimates that 3,665 Libyans have been killed since the fighting began. Chadian forces, however, lost their commander in chief, who was seriously wounded in the battle at Ouadi Doum. Citing "reliable sources," AFP said the new acting commander in chief was formerly second in command with Goukouni Oueddei's forces. AFP's sources reported that the arsenal siezed by Chadian forces in the fall of Ouadi Doum included SA-13 and not SA-10 missile batteries as previously reported.

DRA-Pakistan

Pakistan rejected the DRA's claim that the Afghan aircraft it shot down was a civilian airplane, Karachi radio reported, citing a Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman. The plane, which penetrated deep into Pakistani territory, was "undoubtedly" a military aircraft and was given several warnings, the spokesman maintained.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 063 *2 April 1987*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'Arafat Loyalists Reportedly Arrested in Lebanon *[VOL]* .... A 1
WAKH: 'Arafat Reportedly To Meet PFLP's Habash .... A 1
USSR, Others To Reconcile Al-Asad, 'Arafat *[Monte Carlo]* .... A 1
PLO Envoy Delivers 'Arafat Message for Gorbachev *[Algiers VOP]* .... A 1
'Arafat on Hostages, Peace Conference *[Voice of PLO]* .... A 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Jordan's Al-Qasim Delivers Message to Amir .... C 1
Departs Manama 1 Apr .... C 1

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister Meets With PLO's Hani al-Hasan .... C 1

QATAR

Jordan's Al-Qasim Delivers King's Message, Departs .... C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

Reports of Clash With YAR 'Wishful Thinking' .... C 1

UAE

AL-WAHDAH Warns Against U.S. 'Dirty Trade War' .... C 2
Libyan Envoy Leaves Abu Dhabi for Riyadh *[WAKH]* .... C 2
Jordanian Official Arrives in Abu Dhabi 1 Apr *[QNA]* .... C 2
Delivers King Husayn's Message *[WAKH]* .... C 2

PDRY

USSR's Talyzin Makes Stopover in Aden .... C 2
Party Secretary Addresses Celebration Committee .... C 3

EGYPT

Mubarak Speaks on Libyan Aircraft, Palestinians .... D 1
'Abd al-Majid Says Arab Future Threatened .... D 1
Official Source Denounces Al-Wazir JANA Remarks .... D 2
Ethiopian President To Visit Cairo 9 Apr .... D 2
Malaysian Finance Minister Arrives 30 Mar .... D 2
World Bank 'Experts' To Extend Electricity Loan *[AL-AHRAM 31 Mar]* .... D 2
AL-WAFD on Clashes With Muslim Groups in Sawhaj *[25 Mar]* .... D 2
Opposition Alliance Holds Elections Conference .... D 3
Paper on Muslim Brothers Campaign Developments *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 29 Mar]* .... D 3
Commentary Views Forthcoming General Elections .... D 3

IRAQ

Ba'th Delegation Leaves for French Party Congress .... E 1
Communique No 2,623 Details Latest Operations .... E 1
Briefs: Protocol With Bulgaria Signed .... E 1

JORDAN

Government Denies Murdered Men Intelligence Agents *[Monte Carlo]* .... F 1
Cabinet Takes Measures To Help Local Councils *[JORDAN TIMES 1 Apr]* .... F 1
Dudin Receives Gaza Refugee Camp Delegation .... F 1

LEBANON

Fadlallah Asserts Hostage Issue Exploited *[VOL]* .... G 1
Iranian Envoy Confers With Fadlallah, Shams al-Din *[Voice of National Resistance]* .... G 1
Junblatt Comments on Government, Security Issues *[Voice of the Mountain]* .... G 1
  Foresees 'New Bloody Civil War' *[Voice of the Mountain]* .... G 1
AL-HAWADITH Interviews Lebanese Commander *[London, 27 Mar]* .... G 1
Ja'ja', Sham'un on Reopening of Beirut Airport *[RFL]* .... G 6
  Lebanese Front Response *[RFL]* .... G 6
French Embassy Reportedly Reopens in West Beirut *[Voice of National Resistance]* .... G 7
Shatila Inhabitants Appeal to Gorbachev on Siege .... G 7
Security Situation in West Beirut Camps Updated *[VOL]* .... G 7
National Resistance Fighters Attack Israeli Patrol *[Voice of National Resistance]* .... G 7

SYRIA

Date for Al-Jumayyil Summit Linked to Reform *[WAKH]* .... H 1
Foreign Minister Receives Lebanese Delegation .... H 1
State Minister Receives Arab League Official .... H 1
People's Assembly Meets, Approves Agreements .... H 1

ISRAEL

Luxembourg: Gorbachev Invites Peres To Visit .... I 1
  Unconfirmed by Peres Office .... I 1
USSR's Gerasimov: No Invitation, Reciprocity .... I 1
Shamir, Peres Discuss Soviet 'Mass Emigration' .... I 1
Envoy to Paris Cautious on Links With USSR *[Paris]* .... I 1
Peres Adviser Analyzes USSR, S. Africa Policies .... I 2
MA'ARIV Assesses Soviet Strategy for Conference *[27 Mar]* .... I 3
Rabin Repeats Conditions of USSR, PRC Peace Role .... I 4
Katz Denies Report on Role in Pollard Affair *[MA'ARIV 2 Apr]* .... I 5
  Sources: Role 'Marginal' .... I 5
  Possible Questioning Viewed .... I 5
Rabin on Pollard Affair, South Africa Sanctions .... I 5
Tamir Confers With African Ambassadors *['AL HAMISHMAR 1 Apr]* .... I 5
Defense Sources View South Africa, Arms Exports .... I 6
New Procedures on Arms Deals Take Effect 1 Apr .... I 6
Shamir To Visit France, Belgium Late April *[DAVAR 1 Apr]* .... I 6
Ghali Discusses Mideast Peace, Palestinian Issue .... I 6
Nir, Iran's Ghorbanifar Meet in Switzerland *[HADASHOT 29 Mar]* .... I 7
Rabin: No Lavi Decision in Cabinet Before May .... I 7
  Sources Clarify Budget Issue .... I 7

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Spanish Foreign Minister Concludes Visit .... Q 1
  Madrid: Arms Sales Denied .... Q 1
  Departure Press Conference .... Q 1
KUNA: Eritrean Front Delegation Arrives for Visit .... Q 1
Messaadia Ends 'Fruitful' Visit to Latin America .... Q 2

LIBYA

PLO Appeals to Al-Qadhdhafi About Camps Siege .... Q 2
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Message From Bourguiba .... Q 2
JANA Dismisses Al-Majid Claims of Troops in Sudan .... Q 2
JANA Editor Denies Troops in Ounianga-Kebir .... Q 2

MOROCCO

Turkey's Evren, Hassan Speak at Dinner 31 Mar *[Ankara]* .... Q 3

SUDAN

Al-Qadhdhafi Telephones; 2 Libyan Envoys Visit .... Q 4
Libyan Troops in Darfur Begin Withdrawal 31 Mar *[AL-SIYASAH 2 Apr]* .... Q 4
'Outlaw' Camp Destroyed Near Ethiopian Border .... Q 4
Military Source Says 321 'Outlaws' Killed 25 Mar .... Q 4
SPLA Leader Killed in Battle in Daga Area .... Q 5
Sudanese Armed Forces Destroy 'Outlaw' Camps .... Q 5
Government Forces Suffer 'Devastating Defeat' *[Radio SPLA]* .... Q 5
SPLA Forces Launch 'Fierce Attack' on Mayom *[Radio SPLA]* .... Q 5
SPLA Radio Says Forces Repel Attack 29 Mar .... Q 5
SPLA Forces Report 20 Mar Bahr al-Ghazal Clash *[Radio SPLA]* .... Q 5
SPLA Force Kills 45 Militiamen 23-24 Mar *[Radio SPLA]* .... Q 6

WESTERN SAHARA

Saharan Ministry: 200 Moroccans Killed 26 Mar *[Algiers]* .... Q 6

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Border Talks With Somalia Open in Addis Ababa .... R 1
  Somali Delegation Arrives 31 Mar .... R 1
  Meeting Begins 1 April .... R 1
  Bayeh Addresses Meeting .... R 1
  2d Round of Talks Held 2 Apr .... R 1
GDR Delegation Meets Mengistu; Returns Home .... R 2
'Part Three' of Mengistu Report to WPE Plenum .... R 2

KENYA

SUNA: Government Closes SPLA Offices in Nairobi .... R 7

SEYCHELLES

USSR Delivers Fuel as 'Final Part' of Gift *[AFP]* .... R 7

TANZANIA

Mwinyi Receives Angolan President on Stopover ..... R 7

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAR

Chadian Foreign Minister Meets Kolingba *[Dakar]* ..... S 1

CHAD

GUNT Leader on 'Tactical' Faya-Largeau Withdrawal *[JANA]* ..... S 1
    Libyans Continue Retreat *[AFP]* ..... S 1

ZAIRE

Romania's Ceausescu Arrives on Visit 30 Mar ..... S 2
    Mobutu Toasts Ceausescu ..... S 2

WEST AFRICA

BURKINA FASO

National CDR Conference Opens 30 Mar ..... T 1

MALI

UDPM Congress Ends, Resolutions Adopted ..... T 1

NIGERIA

Committees To Screen Religious TV Programs ..... T 2
Bendel Restricts Days of Religious Programs ..... T 2
Bauchi State Orders Reopening of Schools ..... T 2

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

UNITA Claims 134 MPLA Troops Killed 1-24 March *[KUP]* ..... U 1
Dos Santos Makes 4-Day Visit to New Delhi ..... U 1

MOZAMBIQUE

Resistance Movement Frees 6 Europeans *[AFP]* ..... U 1
Chissano Recieves Gorbachev Message from Talyzin ..... U 1
Jorge Rebelo Leads Delegation to Moscow ..... U 1

SOUTH AFRICA

P.W. Botha Appoints New Environment Minister ..... U 1
Botha Transfers Some Security Powers to Justice ..... U 1
Vlok Announces Release of Presbyterian Leader ..... U 1
Pik Botha Addresses Campaign Rally in Ysterplaat ..... U 2
    Defends Press Restrictions ..... U 2
    Challenges Hawke on Tambo ..... U 2
UDF Activist Predicts Violence if NP Wins ..... U 3
Cape Town Council To Oppose Group Areas Eviction ..... U 3
P.W. Botha Defends NP Record on Reform *[RAPPORT 29 Mar]* ..... U 4

Information Bureau Issues 1 April Unrest Report .... U 6
Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems .... U 7

SWAZILAND

Customs Deposits Cut Off RSA-Mozambique Freight *[Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY 1 Apr]* .... U 7

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe on Sanctions, Constitution, Economy .... U 8
House Speaker Asserts Right To Act Against Smith .... U 10

'Arafat Loyalists Reportedly Arrested in Lebanon

NC310720 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0600 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] According to well-informed Palestinian sources, the [pro-Syrian] Fatah Uprising-Provisional Command and the PFLP-GC have arrested members of a pro-'Arafat subversive group operating in Al-Baddawi Camp in northern Lebanon.

The sources state that the arrested Palestinians were using identity cards issued by the DFLP and the PFLP. This has prompted both the DFLP and the PFLP to take measures against what they call plans for inter-Palestinian fighting, they said.

WAKH: 'Arafat Reportedly To Meet PFLP's Habash

JN020729 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0630 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 Apr (WAKH) — Press reports said here today that PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash will shortly meet with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. In its issue today, *Al-Ittihad* quoted Palestinian sources in Damascus as saying Habash will not return to Damascus and the decision to meet with 'Arafat surprised Habash's Political Bureau in Damascus.

Meanwhile, a responsible PFLP Political Bureau source in Damascus denied reports of any Habash-'Arafat meeting. The source affirmed that Habash had stated in a telephone call that a meeting with 'Arafat is out of the question.

In the meantime, other Palestinian sources affirmed that secret mediation is under way to reconcile the Syrian president and 'Arafat and that this mediation is being conducted by the USSR, Libya, Algeria, the YAR, the PDRY, and Kuwait. The sources explained that Palestinian-Syrian relations will be a main topic of the talks the Syrian president will hold during his visit to Moscow in the near future.

USSR, Others To Reconcile Al-Asad, 'Arafat

JN011654 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] A short while ago our correspondent in Amman Fu'ad Na'im sent us a dispatch citing Palestinian sources as saying the Soviet Union and some Arab and foreign quarters are now intensifying efforts to bring about a reconciliation between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat before the next PNC session.

However, the abovementioned sources expressed reservations over the chances of the success of these efforts. Once successful, these efforts would contribute to the success of the Palestinian dialogue and to the removal of obstacles hampering the convocation of the PNC on the basis of the statement issued by six Palestinian organizations in Tripoli that called for a collective PLO leadership and for freezing relations between the PLO and Egypt.

In another development, our correspondent said that 70 PNC members residing in Amman will leave for Algiers to participate in the next PNC session on 20 April.

A short while ago we learned from Palestinian sources in Algiers that a joint Palestinian statement signed by the Fatah Movement, the DFLP, the PFLP, the Palestine Liberation Front, and the Fatah Revolutionary Council was issued today. The statement appealed to the Syrian leadership, headed by President Hafiz al-Asad, to immediately intervene to lift the siege on Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps and allow the entry of supplies and the evacuation of the wounded. This is now possible following the Syrian forces' entry into West Beirut.

The statement added that the continuation of the camps siege and the suffering of the inhabitants requires swift intervention because the fall of these camps will negatively affect the alliance of the forces struggling against the plots of imperialism, Zionism, and their allies.

PLO Envoy Delivers 'Arafat Message for Gorbachev

LD012021 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolutionary Forces, has sent a message to the Soviet leader Gorbachev. The message has been delivered by Hakam Bil'awi, the PLO's representative in Tunis, to the Soviet ambassador to the Tunisian Republic.

The message revolves around the latest serious developments in the situation in the Palestinian camps in Beirut brought about by mounting aggression and continuous siege of both of Birri's gangs and the Syrian forces, which have been deployed in Beirut for the last 6 weeks, as well as the need to move swiftly in order to lift the camps siege.

'Arafat on Hostages, Peace Conference

JN012032 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1807 GMT 1 Apr 87

["Details" of news conference given by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the PLO office in Baghdad on 1 April — recorded]

[Excerpts] ['Arafat] The purpose of this meeting is to brief you on the serious situation in the Palestinian camps in Beirut 6 weeks after the entry of the Syrian forces into Beirut and especially on the situation in the Shatila camp, where there is no medicine or food. It is very difficult to get water there, because the wells from which people drink were run by engines that are out of order now. Diseases such as typhoid also are spreading.

Yesterday, Amal, which is stationed in Syrian-controlled positions, warned the Shatila camp and asked it to surrender and have the children and women leave the camp. They warned that if they do not surrender, Amal will carry out a massacre against the camp. Over loudspeakers Amal also repeated its warning and said: Do not think we will allow supplies to enter under any circumstances. Do not try to bring supplies, medicine, or water [words indistinct].

The Shatila camp is dying and we hold the Syrian regime responsible, as its forces are participating with the Amal gangs in besieging the camp. These forces have completely banned the entry of all supplies and medical materials and have banned the evacuation of the wounded. They also do not allow any fuel to be sent to the camp to operate the surgical equipment. We hold the Syrian regime responsible for this new massacre of the Palestinian children and women in the Shatila camp. We urge world public opinion to move to save Shatila.

Yesterday we called for a UN Security Council session through our friends so the UN forces in Lebanon would protect the UNRWA's supply convoys. We hope we can get this resolution [not further identified] for human considerations to save our children and women who are besieged and who are facing death as a result of hunger, thirst, and attacks. Any questions?

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

['Arafat] Some of them can fight. But we should take into consideration there are children and women. Therefore, the situation is very grave.

[Reporter] Why this interest in Shatila?

['Arafat] Because Shatila is in West Beirut. Syria has decided to control Shatila. I will tell you what Lieutenant 'Ali Hammud said to the [pro-PLO] demonstrators.

[Reporter] Who is he?

['Arafat] 'Ali Hammud is an aide to Ghazi Kan'an. He told them the camps are located in the southern suburb. They [the Syrians] said that Burj al-Barajinah might be part of the southern suburb, although it is not so. It is on the road leading to the airport. But Shatila is surrounded by Syrian forces on all sides. He [Hammud] asked them to submit a memo to President al-Asad. This is a political decision by his excellency personally. The women demonstrators said: The siege of the camps is not carried out by Amal, but it is a Syrian decision by his excellency the president. [Passage omitted on the bad conditions in the camps]

[Reporter] Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], what are the prospects for convening an urgent Security Council session?

['Arafat] I have told friends and brothers in Iraq and Egypt to help us convene a session of the Security Council. I also told friends in the USSR [word indistinct], (?China), in France, and in Italy, as well as in other countries who are members of the Security Council, to help us.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

['Arafat] Yesterday the [Arab League] assistant secretary general went to Damascus. This is the second time he went, after the first Arab attempt achieved no success. The first Arab attempt with Damascus did not achieve any success.

[Reporter] Do you mean the seven-member committee?

['Arafat] Lakhdar Ibrahim, the assistant secretary general, is the permanent representative of the seven-member committee. He is in Damascus for the second time, and so far he has not received any response.

[Reporter] Yesterday Ghazi Kan'an denied the existence of an agreement with the Americans to release the hostages in exchange for silence about the entry of the Syrian forces. He said these accusations are false.

['Arafat] He denied and our brother Nabih Birri [words indistinct]. I have the statements made by Nabih Birri. This statement was monitored on 28 March from Radio Monte Carlo. The report says: Today Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement, renewed his suggestion calling for swapping the Israeli pilot held by Amal and the four university professors for Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails. In his statement to the reporters, Nabih Birri affirmed this swap constitutes the only solution to end the issue of the four professors, as Alann Steen is suffering from a serious illness [words indistinct]. I have quoted this from Monte Carlo. This is a report on a second statement made by Nabih Birri broadcast by the (?BBC). The report said: The release of the four hostages and the Anglican Church's envoy, Terry Waite, depends on Israel's agreement to release 400 Palestinians and Lebanese held in Israeli jails. Birri renewed his call for concluding a comprehensive deal including the release of the Israeli copilot. I am not fabricating this. They do not know what they say, but we keep everything [words indistinct].

[Reporter] Birri said 'Arafat knows the location of the hostages.

['Arafat] I know he is holding them. I know they are held in Al-Biqa' in 'Anjar. Do you expect me not to know? I know the hostages are in Al-Biqa'. They are held by Amal and guarded by Syrian intelligence in 'Anjar. Do you know what 'Anjar is?

[Reporter] What is 'Anjar?

['Arafat] It is the center of Syrian intelligence in Al-Biqa'.

[Reporter] What do the people in the camps eat to survive?

['Arafat] We have received many appeals calling for saving their children and wives. Some children are dying from dehydration. [Words indistinct] no food or medicine is there. [Words indistinct] they slaughtered their dogs and cats to feed themselves. This is a crime. I have the right to ask: Did the Syrian forces enter Lebanon to achieve security? But security has yet to be achieved for the Palestinians. Why should not the Palestinians be secure? All Arab, Islamic, and international forces are now called upon to move, if not for political reasons then for humanitarian reasons at least.

[Reporter] Have you asked the countries that made a pledge to you in 1982 — that is, Britain, France, Italy, and....

['Arafat, interrupting] The United States [words indistinct]

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

['Arafat] In the light of the promises they received from Damascus to release the American and European hostages, they are remaining silent, waiting for the Damascus regime to fulfill its promises to release the hostages. Regrettably, because of these promises, our children are dying from continuous shelling [words indistinct].[passage omitted on the situation in the camps]

[Reporter] Recently there has been much talk about the international conference. There were signals from the Soviet Union during the British prime minister's talks in Moscow and even from the East-West meeting and so forth [words indistinct] that Israel is insisting on restoring its relations with the Soviet Union before agreeing to the conference. News agencies today published reports the Soviet Union has agreed to this. What is the actual situation, in your opinion? I am not talking about [words indistinct] in particular, but just about the situation.

['Arafat] There is no doubt that, following the initiative announced by Comrade Gorbachev and President Mitterrand last summer on an international conference and a preparatory committee and then the statement issued by the EC approving the international conference on the basis of [words indistinct] which calls for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the PLO's participation in this conference, and following the Chinese leadership's approval of holding this conference, it is the U.S. Administration that has thus far not expressed its opinion about us, although it has given some positive signs about holding the conference in principle, but has provided no details. This subject was discussed during Armacost's visit to Moscow, but Mr Armacost did not give clear answers in this regard. His Majesty King Fahd also held talks with Thatcher on the international conference during his recent visit. A similar discussion is now being held in Moscow between the Soviet leaders and the British prime minister.

[Reporter] The Israelis began to repeat the old illogical words that the PLO [words indistinct].

['Arafat] First, Israel must admit its crime and recognize the victims of its crime. We are the victims of international crime. [Words indistinct] our land and the Israeli gangs displaced 80 percent of the Palestinian people from Palestine and 40 [as heard] percent are still under occupation. What is first required is to recognize the victim [words indistinct]. However, I would like to say [words indistinct] the PLO that we abide by international legality and UN resolutions, but let the Israeli leaders, who are now rejecting international legality and UN resolutions, know that Israel is the only state in the world that was formed by an international resolution. Nevertheless, it is not respecting any of these international resolutions. When we say it is an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations [words indistinct] that the PLO will participate because we are members of the United Nations and the United Nations will deal in the conference according to this resolutions and [words indistinct]. As long as it is an international conference, the PLO will participate and, as an international conference would be under UN auspices, the UN should proceed in this conference from its resolutions. We are members of the United Nations.

[Reporter] The PNC will hold a session in Algiers. There are (?reports in Kuwaiti papers) that there will be a collective PLO leadership. Is this true?

['Arafat] Yes, because the PLO is a collective leadership....

[Reporter, interrupting] In defining the powers of its chairman?

['Arafat] The Executive Committee is a collective leadership for the Palestinian people. This is well known and within the law and Palestinian resolutions. Palestinian law says the Executive Committee is a collective leadership. I certainly agree with that. [Words indistinct] that the Palestinian leadership is a collective leadership.

[Reporter] Will the Executive Committee be expanded?

['Arafat] No, there are laws and rules that govern the Palestinian march.

[Reporter] How many Palestinian factions will participate in the PNC?

['Arafat] So far five Palestinian factions have agreed to participate in the PNC session. These are the ALF, the Palestinian Liberation Front, the DFLP, the Palestinian Communist Party, the Palestinian Labor Party, and Fatah.

[Reporter] That is six.

['Arafat] No, five without Fatah. This is in addition to all the popular organizations, which number 11 organizations representing workers, peasants, doctors, engineers, teachers, women, artists, and lawyers -- 11 organizations in addition to independent ones.

[Reporter] Dialogue between the PFLP and other fronts is continuing. What result has so far been reached?

['Arafat] We hope the PFLP will rise to the level of the responsibilities shouldered by the Palestinian leaderships and that we will rise to the level of our people who are offering sacrifices in Palestinian camps. We will not yield to any blackmail on the part of the Syrian leadership.

[Reporter] What is the obstacle?

['Arafat]Syrian pressure. Syria warns anyone who joins the PNC will not [words indistinct]. This means a one-way ticket with no return.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

['Arafat] No, no [words indistinct].

[Reporter] Was there an Amman agreement when the previous PNC was held?

['Arafat] No, it was held before the Amman agreement.

[Reporter] And people attended it?

['Arafat] Yes, [because of] Syrian pressure, Syrian pressure.

BAHRAIN

Jordan's Al-Qasim Delivers Message to Amir

JN010945 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0820 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Manama, 1 Apr (WAKH) — Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah has received a message from Jordan's King Husayn. The message deals with Jordan's views on Arab issues and the possibility of holding an international conference to settle the Palestinian question.

Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Jordanian Court, delivered the message when the Bahraini amir received him in Manama today. Bahraini Foreign Minister Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah and Jordanian Ambassador to Bahrain Amjad al-Majali also attended the meeting.

In a statement afterward, Al-Qasim said the EC has recently expressed its support for an international conference. He said the Arabs must make greater efforts on various levels to explain their position on the conference.

Al-Qasim referred to Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i's visit to the United States. He said that the most important topic Al-Rifa'i will discuss during his trip is the possibility of holding an international conference for regional peace.

Al-Qasim praised Bahraini-Jordanian ties, pointing out that they are growing stronger each day. He said he wished relations among other Arab states were on the same level as those between Bahrain and Jordan.

Departs Manama 1 Apr

JN010948 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0830 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Manama, 1 Apr (WAKH) — Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Jordanian Court, left Manama today after a 2-day visit to Bahrain, which was part of a tour of a number of states in the region.

He was seen off by Bahraini Foreign Minister Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah and Jordanian Ambassador to Bahrain Amjad al-Majali.

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister Meets With PLO's Hani al-Hasan

LD012345 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1323 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Kuwait, 1 Apr (KUNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to the PLO chairman, at his office in the Foreign Ministry this afternoon.

Following the meeting, Mr al-Hasan told journalists that he and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad had reviewed the tragic situation of those in Lebanon's Palestinian camps, the prospects of moves to render humanitarian aid to the inhabitants of those besieged camps, and ways of separating political issues from humanitarian ones. He added that this is the most urgent matter, particularly when one recalls conditions in Shatila, where diesel fuel has been cut off, stopping the flow of water from wells.

He said the meeting with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad could be considered as preparation for the session scheduled for Saturday in Tunis [not further specified] during the meetings of the Arab foreign ministers.

QATAR

Jordan's Al-Qasim Delivers King's Message, Departs

JN011224 Doha QNA in Arabic 1155 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Doha, 1 Apr (QNA) — Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a message from Jordan's King Husayn ibn Talal. The message deals with the current Arab situation, the efforts being made to settle the Middle East crisis, and bilateral relations. Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Jordanian Court, delivered the message when the Qatari amir received him today.

Also present at the audience were His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and defense minister; and 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwwari, information minister.

Marwan al-Qasim left Doha today following a visit lasting several hours.

SAUDI ARABIA

Reports of Clash With YAR 'Wishful Thinking'

LD281833 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1715 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] Riyadh, 28 Mar (SPA) — A responsible source has made the following statement to SPA:

We have noticed that certain mass media are not happy seeing Saudi-Yemeni relations flourish and prosper in a steady, unique way. Hence, they portray matters in a manner that distorts these growing relations in order to influence the course of permanent cooperation between the two countries, which is founded on the principles of common interest and mutual respect between the governments and peoples of the two countries.

The source added that the allegations by a number of information media concerning a clash on the borders between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Yemen Arab Republic (YAR) are no more than wishful thinking on their part, as they do not feel comfortable with the model of cooperation and good neighborliness that exists between these two fraternal countries. As such, they try to depict matters in a way other than they truly are.

The source said that relations rising to this level of cooperation, coordination, and cohesion despite the crises and differences that dominate our world today, cannot be affected by such biased and rancorous intrigues. The reported clashes were nothing but routine border search operations to catch criminals from both states; they did not result in any fighting or quarrels.

Likewise, the reports about the Kingdom's designs on Yemeni oil are pure lies and fabrications. Indeed, the first to offer heartfelt sincere congratulations on the discovery of oil in Yemeni territory to His Excellency President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the YAR president, was the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He wished fraternal Yemen greater prosperity, development, and progress under the leadership of his brother, His Excellency President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, whom the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia sees as one of the staunchest pillars of security and stability in the region, and a great prop of Arab and Islamic solidarity. The Kingdom will not permit anyone, whoever he may be, to disturb the strong relations between two fraternal and harmonious countries and peoples.

Thanks to the cooperation and harmony established by the two leaders, the source concluded, the borders no longer divide the two countries, which always look forward to all that will bolster the fraternity and continuity of the daily interests of the two peoples, who are the true guardians of their sublime national common interests.

UAE

AL-WAHDAH Warns Against U.S. 'Dirty Trade War'

JN310942 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0740 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 31 Mar (WAM) — The newspaper *Al-Wahdah* has criticized the U.S. Administration for tampering with the exchange rates of the dollar and described this as a clear-cut conspiracy against developing countries.

In its editorial, the paper said what is now happening in the international money markets represents a dirty trade war being launched by the United States. This, it said, even affects its allies among the industrial states, like Japan.

The paper added that the reduction of the exchange rate for the dollar and the imposition of new restrictions on exports to the United States represent a challenge to the international economic order and a clear-cut conspiracy against the developing countries, especially oil-producing states that keep their funds in U.S. banks and export oil to the United States and, at the same time, feel incapable of doing anything or making any decision to ameliorate the effects of the U.S. measures.

The paper wondered about the danger posed to Arab deposits in U.S. banks, which amount to $400 billion. It noted that the U.S. Administration has frozen the funds of 35 developing states as a form of punishment.

Concluding its editorial, the paper expressed its belief that if they want to see their deposits flourish in a secure atmosphere, the oil states must turn to industrialized countries other than the United States.

Libyan Envoy Leaves Abu Dhabi for Riyadh

JN020902 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0735 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 Apr (WAKH) — Dr Muftah al-Ustah, secretary general of the Libyan People's Congress and envoy of Libyan President [as received] Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, left Abu Dhabi for Riyadh this morning at the end of his visit to the UAE, which was part of a regional tour.

During the visit, the Libyan envoy delivered a message from President al-Qadhdhafi to the UAE president, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, dealing with the Arab situation and issues related to the achievement of Arab cooperation.

Jordanian Official Arrives in Abu Dhabi 1 Apr

JN011423 Doha QNA in Arabic 1210 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 1 Apr (QNA) — Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Jordanian Court, arrived in Abu Dhabi today from Doha on a 1-day visit to the UAE as part of a tour taking him to a number of regional states.

Al-Qasim has a message from His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan to UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. The message deals with Jordan's views on current Arab issues and the possibility of holding an international conference.

Delivers King Husayn's Message

JN012213 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2030 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Al-'Ayn, 1 Apr (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, has received a message from Jordan's King Husayn ibn Talal on current developments in the Arab world and bilateral relations.

The message was conveyed by Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Jordanian Hashemite Court, during his meeting with President Zayid. The meeting was also attended by Hamdan ibn Zayid, UAE Foreign Ministry under secretary.

PDRY

USSR's Talyzin Makes Stopover in Aden

EA012326 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Comrade Nikolay Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Politburo, first deputy prime minister of the USSR and chairman of the Soviet State Planning Committee, arrived in Aden this afternoon en route to his country from Mozambique. He was received at the airport by Brother Brigadier Salih Munassar al-Siyayli, member of the Political Bureau, deputy prime minister and minister of interior, and several other officials. The Soviet ambassador in Aden, Comrade Albert Rachkov, was present as well.

Party Secretary Addresses Celebration Committee

EA012322 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, has called for a proper response to the celebration of the 20th anniversary of national independence, the 25th anniversary of the glorious 26 September Revolution, and the 70th anniversary of the USSR. He said preparations for these must become a major political, economic, and cultural demonstration in which all our Yemeni masses participate.

In his address delivered this morning during the first meeting of the higher committee for celebration, the brother secretary said the various activities and programs for the celebration of these three events must embrace and manifest the political, economic, social, and cultural changes the revolution achieved during the preceding 2 decades, as well as the developing role of our country and party on the internal and external political levels, its prominent position in various international fora, and its firm and principled attitudes toward Arab and international issues.

The brother secretary general also called for new methods of mobilizing the workers to fully implement the social and economic plans and programs in a spirit of devotion by launching production competitions to stimulate a competitive spirit through revolutionary mass initiatives in the various productive institutions and important projects, which could thus be completed ahead of schedule as a modest gift from our country's workers to mark the celebrations.

During this first meeting, the following committees were formed: branch committees in the governorates and the armed forces; subcommittees of the higher committee, including the organizing subcommittee, the production competition subcommittee, the initiatives subcommittee, the information and cultural subcommittee, the creative competition subcommittee, and the secretariat.

The higher committee charged the subcommittees and branch committees in the governorates and the armed forces with determining the scope of their work during the coming period for submission to the higher committee at its next meeting.

Mubarak Speaks on Libyan Aircraft, Palestinians

NC011631 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Al-Mansurah, 1 Apr (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has stressed that Egypt does not force anyone to seek asylum in it, nor does it force any aircraft to land on its territory, as Libya claims.

This came in a statement by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif, citing President Mubarak's address before a popular rally held in the city of Al-Mansurah today. Al-Sharif added that in his address the president referred to the two Libyan planes that had landed in Egypt. The president pointed out that the Libyan military personnel from the first aircraft knew the air routes quite well and brought personal luggage with them. This applies to the first aircraft, the C-130, but also to the second, the Chinook helicopter, which landed at Matruh airport, he added.

Addressing the rally, the president said: Libyans seeking asylum in Egypt is an expression of the persecution to which the Libyan people are being subjected. It also reflects the fact that the Libyan people are being forced to enter an expansionist war that has left 2,476 Libyans killed, 318 missing, 663 captured, and 270 wounded, and that has resulted in the damage of 14 aircraft. The president added that four Libyan aircraft have been seized in Chad, and that some other military equipment has been destroyed.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif added that the president also spoke about Egypt's efforts regarding the Palestinian issue. President Mubarak noted the continuing consultations and coordination with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, and then went on to say: The problem is the contradicting statements made by some of the Palestinian officials working with Yasir 'Arafat. He noted that some Palestinian officials make statements that are incompatible with the principles and policies adopted by the PLO. They make negative statements about Egypt that are not in line with Egypt's efforts on the Palestinian issue. The president pointed out that these statements seem to be in harmony with the policy of the state they are speaking from or visiting, ignoring what Egypt is giving for the sake of the Palestinian cause. He noted in this respect that Egypt has never hesitated to provide a university education for more than 2,400 Palestinian students. He added: Those who make a profession out of these statements must hold on to the values and principles that serve their cause; they must save their energy for serving the interests of the Palestinian issue.

In his talk about foreign issues, President Mubarak emphasized Egypt's commitment to peace and said that this is Egypt's firm strategy. He stressed that peace was concluded by the will of the people and that the Egyptian people are more committed to peace and know the way and the path that are in line with the country's higher interests.

President Mubarak stressed that peace has never put a shackle on Egypt's will and its efforts and support for the Palestinian issue. He referred to the efforts that were made and are still to be made by Egypt to achieve the just and comprehensive peace based on fulfilling the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. He said that Egypt has exerted and continues to exert its utmost efforts to bring about an agreement on holding the international conference.

President Mubarak dealt with Egypt's participation in the Islamic summit held in Kuwait, praising the role of Kuwait and its amir in making that conference successful. He also dealt with Syria's stand during the conference, mentioning its true aims and maneuvering. He said: We are not willing to lose our time in vituperations, and all our efforts are focused on survival.

President Mubarak discussed the issue of relations between Egypt and the various Arab countries. He noted that Egypt's relations with all its Arab brothers are good and that there is mutual respect among them. He added: We do not accept any statements that do not agree with our policies. We do not accept an infringement on the dignity of any Egyptian citizen nor an infringement on the dignity of a single inch of Egyptian soil. The president asked the people not to believe any rumors, and said: Rest assured that we are faithful to the rights of every male and female citizen in Egypt and that we do not allow any infringement on Egypt's sovereignty. We will work together for construction. The president also called on the citizens never to allow any infringement on stability for the sake of Egypt and the future of its sons. President Mubarak said: Some people have tried to infringe on Egypt's stability through one-upmanship in the sphereof sectarian sedition. He added: Some writers and newspapers have abused this issue and have unjustly marred Egypt's image and its stability before the world.

President Mubarak stressed that Muslims and Christians have lived under the Egyptian banner since the beginning of time. Islam is tolerant, he added, but some people have tried to harm the people's national unity by committing irresponsible acts. However, all the people realize that instability affects the democratic process, our leading role, and our influence. He said: We will not allow any infringement on stability. Those who believe that affecting stability will bring them gains are mistaken.

At the end of the mass rally, President Mubarak stressed that the people reject any infringement on their security and stability. He said: The responsibility is not one of security, but the responsibility of every male and female citizen. Egypt is a state of institutions and has its own role and position in this region. It has responsibilities toward its security that cannot be achieved except with full stability and a strong military capable of protecting our soil, our decision, and our will.

'Abd al-Majid Says Arab Future Threatened

NC011118 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that the Arab nation faces conditions that threaten its future and very identity and that the Arab countries have no choice but to meet their responsibilities and end their disputes and divisions. In a press statement he made today, 'Abd al-Majid said: Egypt is working for a just solution to the Palestinian issue and is working with all concerned parties to prepare for an international peace conference.

Official Source Denounces Al-Wazir JANA Remarks

NC312114 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2022 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 31 Mar (MENA) — This evening an official Egyptian source denounced the statement that Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, Fatah Central Committee member, made to the Libyan news agency, describing it as pure jugglery. The source said that if Abu Jihad wants to sever relations with Egypt, let him do so. If he stays in Egypt, as he said, to strengthen the Egyptian people's stand, we tell him: Solve your own issue. You have nothing to do with Egypt's domestic affairs, and the Egyptian people do not need your consolidation.

Khalil al-Wazir made a statement to the Libyan news agency during his visit to Tripoli in which he declared his rejection of the Camp David Accords. He said: Our presence in Egypt will consolidate the position of the Egyptian people, who are opposed to these agreements.

Ethiopian President To Visit Cairo 9 Apr

NC011040 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 1 Apr (MENA) — Ethiopian President Haile Mariam Mengistu will arrive in Cairo on 9 April on an official visit at the invitation of President Husni Mubarak.

In its edition to be published on 3 April, the Egyptian magazine *Al-Musawwar* reports that a high-level delegation comprising the ministers of foreign affairs, agriculture, and industry will accompany the Ethiopian president on his visit. [passage omitted]

Malaysian Finance Minister Arrives 30 Mar

NC310610 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 30 Mar (MENA) — Malaysian Minister of Finance Daim Zainuddin arrived in Cairo tonight for a 4-day visit at the invitation of Dr Yusri Mustafa, minister of economy and foreign trade.

During his stay the Malaysian minister will hold talks with Dr Mustafa and Minister of Finance Dr Muhammad al-Razzaz on bolstering bilateral trade, increasing it from $22 million to $50 million in the coming phase. [passage omitted]

World Bank 'Experts' To Extend Electricity Loan

JN311705 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 31 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] World Bank experts have agreed to extend a $400 million loan to Egypt, of which $200 million will be used for upgrading the efficiency of the national electricity grid and the other $200 million to construct the Damietta gas-powered electricity station, giving it a capacity of 600 megawatts in the first stage.

Following his meeting with World Bank experts yesterday, Eng Mahir Abaza, minister of electricity and energy, said the FRG Government has agreed to extend a $50 million loan with easy terms to be repaid in 50 years with a 0.75 percent interest rate. This loan will be used for redeveloping stations in northern and southern Cairo, Damanhur, and Asyut, and for upgrading electricity services in Upper Egypt. The FRG also agreed to offer DM2 million for building a training institute in Cairo.

The minister added it has been decided to operate the Marsa Matruh power station with a capacity of 600,000 kilowatts. This is the first floating station in Egypt supplied by Japan. This station will be linked to the Alexandria electricity grid and will supply electrical power to population centers on the northern coast. It will cost $50 million.

AL-WAFD on Clashes With Muslim Groups in Sawhaj

PM300821 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 25 Mar 87 p 3

['Adil al-Qadi and Mahmud Ghallab Investigation: "After Friday's Bloody Incidents in Sawhaj, Fire Is Still Smoldering"]

[Excerpts] The public prosecutor's office in Sawhaj has begun investigating 40 Islamic group members accused of participating in the riots and demonstrations after last Friday's prayers at the Ansar al-Sunnah al-Muhammadiyyah mosque in Sawhaj. The penalty for such behavior can be life imprisonment with hard labor.

The incidents are part of a series of bloody and violent clashes between Islamic groups and security forces that led to grave injuries by a number of officers and soldiers in the line of duty.

Al-Wafd went to Sawhaj in an attempt to convey a clear picture of the situation without any exaggeration or incitement. The situation was and still is dangerous and requires a study of all related aspects.

The incidents began after last Friday's prayers, when the Ansar al-Sunnah al-Muhammadiyyah mosque was packed with a large number of members of the security forces, including some officers. Some were in plain clothes and others were in uniform. In addition, vehicles carrying central security soldiers were surrounding the mosque.

After the end of the prayers, a member of the Islamic groups stood up to comment on the sermon and to clear the Islamic groups of the accusation of stirring up sectarian sedition. Some officers tried to prevent him from speaking, but members of the group went to his aid, the situation suddenly became tense and, consequently, bloody clashes between police and the Islamic group members began. [passage omitted]

Lieutenant Colonel Tariq recalls the details of these bloody incidents: After the Friday prayers we were outside the Ansar al-Sunnah al-Muhammadiyyah mosque to maintain security in the area after earlier incidents. Suddenly we heard chanting: "Down with the government" and "Islamic... Islamic [state]." We went to calm them down but were suddenly confronted with chains, sticks, and stones. They beat us up!. While I tried to talk to them, I was assaulted with a wooden frame and, as a result, sustained major injuries to my head. [passage omitted]

So what can we expect next?

This question is running through the minds of Sawhaj citizens who were terrified at the recent incidents in the city, which led to a partial curfew after 2200. Life in the city is almost at a standstill; any young man with a beard seen in the street at night is arrested. Security forces are deployed in all districts and streets of the city.

So what can we expect next?

We would direct this question to the minister of interior and all Egyptian officials, especially as we have often spoken of the need to find new methods of dealing with the young men of the Islamic groups. Security forces have used violence against them for a long time; this has caused nothing but more violence, which has resulted in major injuries sustained by policemen while carrying out their superiors' orders. Violence will only create hostility and resentment, which we believe, despite what officers have told us, will remain in their hearts until they take revenge! Undoubtedly this might take place in the very near future! The reason is that the Islamic groups met after the campaigns of numerous arrests of their members in Sawhaj and decided to continue to confront the security forces to the end. They demand some freedom regarding meetings, in addition to the right to discuss religious affairs, set up Islamic exhibitions, and freely convey their views to other people. They also demand that they not be dealt with as extremists and criminals and that campaigns of arrests and terror against Muslim youth cease.

Despite the current superficial calm in Sawhaj, we see that a fire is still raging in people's hearts and that the method of force used by the security forces when dealing with those young men creates a bad image and, in fact, has proved to be dangerous in the past. We warn that to continue to pursue such methods will only lead to disastrous consequences, as well as an explosive situation, not only in Sawhaj, but indeed in many other cities where the situation will become much more dangerous. Incidents have taken place in these cities quite recently.

The officials must now think seriously of a solution to this problem and not use force, tear gas, or a slogan to combat extremism. Do any of the officials realize how dangerous the situation really is? Have any of them begun to think seriously about a new method to end this bloody series of incidents?

Although we already know the answer, we are satisfied that we have now presented a complete, honest picture without any exaggeration or incitement. We hope this advice will find its way into the hearts of those who want security for the homeland.

Opposition Alliance Holds Elections Conference

NC271504 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) — Members of the alliance of the Socialist Labor Party, the Social Liberal Party, and the Muslim Brotherhood met last night at the Socialist Labor Party headquarters in Al-Qubbah [in Cairo]. Eng Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Socialist Labor Party, and Muhammad Hamid Abu al-Nasr, [leader of the Muslim Brotherhood], delivered speeches at this conference in which they stressed the importance of campaigning for the candidates on the tripartite alliance election list.

In his address, Eng Ibrahim Shukri asserted that the rumors being disseminated about differences within the Socialist Labor Party are designed to create divisions within the tripartite alliance prior to the upcoming People's Assembly elections.

Muhammad Hamid Abu al-Nasr told the conferees that the Muslim brothers will continue to hold electoral conferences under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party despite the Interior Ministry's objections and its refusal to grant permits to the Muslim brothers to hold an electoral conference of their own.

The conference ended at midnight.

Paper on Muslim Brothers Campaign Developments

NC300854 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 29 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] Cairo, *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat* bureau — At a hearing yesterday the State Council's Administrative Judiciary Court rejected a suit filed by Hamid Abu Al-Nasr, general guide of the Muslim Brothers, demanding that a decree preventing his entry into Alexandria to attend election rallies or speak at them be rescinded. In its ruling the court said that there were no documents indicating that the minister of interior had issued a decree restricting his freedom to attend meetings, move about, present his views, or any other restrictions.

In another development, *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat* has learned that there are radical differences between the Muslim Brothers and Islamic groups in upper Egypt. Dr 'Umar 'Abd al-Rahman, who leads the rejectionist front, attacked the Muslim Brothers during several meetings in Al-Fayyum and Asyut [governorates] because of the Islamic groups' refusal to be included on the Socialist Labor Party's lists.

Egyptian security authorities have taken down campaign posters of the Muslim Brothers' candidates in Cairo and various governorates on the grounds that this is independent propaganda, and, as the Muslim Brothers are not included on the coalition lists, this violates the law.

Commentary Views Forthcoming General Elections

NC011611 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Hasan Fu'ad commentary: "Choosing the Suitable Candidate Guarantees the Achievement of Nationalist Goals"]

[Text] The countdown to the day of the general elections has begun. Next Monday — that is, 4 days from now — 15 million Egyptians will go to the polls to exercise their electoral rights and express their opinions. On that day, the Egyptian voters will choose the candidate they deem most suitable and pick the partisan list they believe will better serve the interests of the homeland in remedying its current problems.

It is needless to reiterate Egypt's deep-rooted history in parliamentary life or its democratic experience, which everyone recognizes as the leading one in the Arab world. It is also needless to mention that our country is now experiencing an atmosphere of freedom never before permitted and that opinions and counteropinions easily find their way to the people through all the branches of the mass media. All the electoral programs of the various political parties, whether major or small, are being broadcast on an equal footing and for the same periods of time over the radio and the television. All Egyptian citizens, whether those who belong to the majority party or the opposition, are now looked upon as patriots. The merit of any Egyptian citizen should only be gauged by his loyalty to the homeland, his readiness to comply with the nationalist requests, and his ability to serve his country's supreme interests.

In the atmosphere of freedom presently enjoyed by our country, not a single political prisoner is being detained without specific charges against him, no opinion or thought is being suppressed, and no political or social doctrine is forced upon any citizen. Therefore, when the voters go to the polls and cast their votes freely and with full confidentiality, they will only follow their nationalist conscience and their sense of patriotism that seeks the homeland's best interests. It is therefore necessary that each elector insists on his right to vote and casts this vote for the candidate he deems qualified for public service, regardless of this candidate's political or partisan inclinations. The entire homeland is now looking forward to having a new parliament capable of reflecting the aspirations of our masses more than any of the previous parliaments, and more qualified to carry out the mission and assume the duty we all look forward to.

We have many problems at home and abroad. There are schemes to strike at our national unity, but, thanks to the nationalist awareness, we have managed to crush and uproot these conspiracies. There are also plots abroad to undermine our independence and national security. It is our duty to be alert to all these schemes and to challenge all our problems and difficulties, which we are certain we can surmount. When we choose the suitable candidate, this means that we opt for a sound representation of our masses in the coming People's Assembly. This sound representation is the only guarantee for the establishment of legislative and executive authority that can meet all the challenges, overcome all the obstacles, find sound and practical solutions for all outstanding problems, and achieve all the country's nationalist goals.

Ba'th Delegation Leaves for French Party Congress

JN010825 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0630 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Apr (INA) — An Arab Socialist Ba'th Party delegation left for Paris today to attend the seventh congress of the ruling French Socialist Party, which will be held there the day after tomorrow and will last 3 days.

The group is led by Taha Yasin al-Basri, director of the Foreign Relations Bureau of the Ba'th Party National Command.

Communique No 2,623 Details Latest Operations

JN011633 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Communique No 2,623 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 1 April 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Our victorious troops continue to inflict more losses on the aggressive Zionist Iranian regime.

The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. With overwhelming superiority over the aggressors, our brave forces in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah continued their heroic confrontation of the Khomeyniite remnants with artillery, tank, and mortar fire, and other means. They dealt the enemy additional losses and achieved the following: The killing or wounding of 17 scoundrels; the destruction of 4 shovels [preceding word in English] and the damaging of 3 others; the destruction of 2 vehicles and 5 enemy positions; and the detonation of 4 ammunition dumps.

2. One of our brave forces from our units in the II Army Corps central sector staged a successful raid on enemy positions facing them. In a swift battle our brave men stormed the enemy positions, killed a number of their occupants, and forced the others to flee. They also seized a quantity of weapons and equipment left by the enemy and returned safely to base.

3. Through capable actions against the Zionist aggressors in the VI Army Corps sector east of Tigris, our units killed and wounded 12 enemy soldiers and destroyed a boat and 2 rafts.

4. Our valiant men continued their heroic confrontation of the enemy forces in the VII Army Corps sector, inflicting further losses in men and materiel on the scoundrels. They also killed two enemy soldiers, destroyed three positions, and blew up two ammunition dumps.

5. Four enemy personnel were killed and one infantry position was destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 April 1987

Briefs

Protocol With Bulgaria Signed — Sofia, 31 Mar (INA) — Bulgaria and Iraq signed a protocol for cultural and scientific cooperation for 1987-1999 in Sofia today. The protocol was signed on the Iraqi side by Dr Sabri Radif, under secretary of the Higher Education and Scientific Research Ministry, and on the Bulgarian side by Mrs Mariya Zakharieva, deputy foreign minister for cultural and scientific affairs. The protocol provides for strengthening bilateral cooperation in higher education, scientific research, culture, and sports. [Text] [*Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 31 Mar 87 JN*]

Government Denies Murdered Men Intelligence Agents

JN011820 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] In Amman a Jordanian official has denied that the four Jordanians killed by Fatah, the Revolutionary Council, on 5 March were members of the Jordanian intelligence service. The organization's statement said the four Jordanians were part of the Jordanian secret service and that their assassination was in response to the slaying of Amin Thabit, a member of Fatah, the Revolutionary Council — that is, the group led by Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna]. The Jordanian official affirmed that the four Jordanians were killed in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' in acts of revenge carried out by rival Palestinian factions.

Cabinet Takes Measures To Help Local Councils

JN011235 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 1 Apr 87 p 1

[Text] Amman (PETRA) — The government has decided on a number of measures to improve the conditions of the municipal and village councils in the Kingdom and enable them to carry out their public service and projects, a statement issued after a cabinet session said.

The statement said that in implementation of directives by His Majesty King Husayn the cabinet discussed in detail recommendations by a ministerial committee formed to study the financial, technical and administrative conditions of municipal and village councils in the Kingdom and the reasons behind their shortage of funds needed for carrying out its projects. The cabinet studied measures that should be taken for improving these conditions and took the following decisions:

— The treasury will shoulder the 1987 interest on loans obtained by the councils from the Cities and Villages Development Bank. (The interest amounts to JD 3,229,498).

— The treasury will shoulder the interest on loans given to local councils for purchasing land for building roads, health centres and schools and municipal offices. (The written off interest until March 31, 1987 amounts to JD 4,662,550).

— The Ministry of Education will shoulder the installments and interest on loans given to local councils by the Cities and Villages Development Bank until Dec. 31, 1987. (The loans obtained for building schools amount to JD 3,401,936).

— The Ministry of Education will shoulder interest and installments on loans given to local councils by the Cities and Villages Development Bank for buying land for schools. (The amount is JD 1,042,201).

— A loan of JD 500,000 given to the Water Authority by the treasury will be paid to the local councils in the form of fuel revenues.

— Various ministries and departments will purchase land and carry out construction operations directly and without requesting help from the local councils during 1987.

— Unpaid loans due from the local councils to the Cities and Villages Development Bank will be rescheduled to be paid over 10 years with a two-year grace period. (These loans amount to JD 2,175,066).

— Local councils will be given loans to meet their commitments to contractors. These commitments, amounting to JD 1,181,114, will be repaid over a 10-year period with a two-year grace period.

— Loans given by the Cities and Villages Development Bank to municipal councils will be rescheduled for a period of 10 years with a two-year grace period.

— Loans given to village councils from the Cities and Villages Development Bank will be rescheduled and paid over 15 years with a two-year grace period.

— The Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank will be entrusted with powers to take proper measures for providing the liquidity for the Cities and Villages Development Bank to carry out these decisions.

A total of 174 municipal councils and 375 village councils will benefit from these decisions.

Dudin Receives Gaza Refugee Camp Delegation

JN311944 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Amman — Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Marwan Dudin received a delegation representing residents of the Gaza refugee camp in his office today. During the meeting the minister stressed that on orders from His Majesty King Husayn, the government is eager to take care of everyone living in Jordan.

The director of the camp sports club delivered a speech on behalf of the delegation, affirming that citizens in the camps are an indivisible part of this country. He declared: We live in Jordan in peace and love under the Hashemite banner of His Majesty King Husayn. He also explained the club's educational, social, and athletic activities, noting that residents of the camp have elected a consultative committee to discuss topical issues with the authorities and work out suitable solutions.

The meeting was also attended by the ministry's under secretary, the director of the ministry's Gaza Affairs Department, and the director of its Information Department.

Fadlallah Asserts Hostage Issue Exploited

NC020627 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] Hizballah spiritual guide Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has emphasized that the states which have hostages in Lebanon do not want to see the problem resolved. These states benefit from this situation, for it serves their political interests in the region.

He declared: There is no sign that an immediate solution to the problem will be found. The issue of the hostages has been turned into a political card which both the states supporting the kidnappers and the states with hostages in Lebanon are exploiting.

Iranian Envoy Confers With Fadlallah, Shams al-Din

NC011735 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1530 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Accompanied by senior embassy officials, Ahmad Dastmalchiyan, the new Iranian ambassador to Lebanon, visited scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah and discussed with him the current situation in Lebanon.

The Iranian ambassador then went to visit the deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council, Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din. The two officials reviewed the developments in Lebanon and arrived at similar conclusions regarding the need to unite the Muslim people living in Lebanon and to fight the great arrogance and its protege, international Zionism. They also stressed the need to end minor differences among Muslims and concentrate instead on fighting the Zionists until all the occupied land is liberated.

Junblatt Comments on Government, Security Issues

NC011347 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] In an interview last night with BBC Television, Channel 2, PSP leader Walid Junblatt criticized Amin al-Jumayyil and his policies. He said: Action under his leadership is ridiculous. He added that to be a minister in a government in Lebanon nowadays is quite ridiculous, particularly if this government is led by Amin al-Jumayyil.

Replying to questions, Junblatt said that the PSP wants to build a democratic and not a sectarian Lebanon. He stressed that the only way out of the crisis lies in establishing an alliance of Lebanese progressive forces to stand against the Phalangist militias and maybe other forms of Phalangists in the Islamic milieu.

Regarding security in West Beirut, Junblatt stated: There is a considerable measure of security there. The situation has returned to normal since the entry of Syrian forces. This pleases the citizens, but there are still hot issues, such as the [Palestinian] camps crisis and the southern suburbs. The Syrians are trying to reach an acceptable solution to the bloody and futile camps war. He expressed the hope that this will be done as soon as possible.

Foresees 'New Bloody Civil War'

NC011407 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] At a news conference in London today, Walid Junblatt stated that he had discussed the Beirut Airport issue during his official meetings with British officials. He affirmed that the issue is still unresolved because of American pressure.

Answering a question about the political situation and the Lebanese crisis, Junblatt said: I think that we might move toward a new bloody civil war. He noted that Amin al-Jumayyil cannot ensure a peaceful solution to the Lebanese crisis.

After referring to the resumption of [PSP] military training, Junblatt said: We must live and defend ourselves. Junblatt stressed the need to clarify his remarks on the Lebanese crisis because, he said, they are occasionally distorted. He denied that he had asked the Syrian Forces to extend their deployment to the southern suburbs or to disarm Hizballah. He described statements attributed to him in this respect as distorted or fabricated.

He also denied that he had described Terry Waite as a spy for American intelligence. He said: I wish I had fresh news, but I do not know anything about Waite.

AL-HAWADITH Interviews Lebanese Commander

PM011401 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 27 Mar 87 pp 16-19

[Interview with Dr Samir Ja'ja', commander of the Lebanese Forces, by William Dahir in Beirut; date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Dahir] It has been noticed that the present political stage is, to a large extent, similar to the stage preceding the tripartite agreement, with respect to both efforts to negotiate with Syria and attempts to reach a political settlement, providing a base for a radical solution. New attempts are being made to revive negotiations between the regime and Damascus but, as in the past, these have been opposed by the Lebanese Forces.

What results do you expect from such opposition: a new tripartite agreement or what?

[Dr Ja'ja'] This question covers many subjects, all of which I will deal with.

First, the present political stage is not similar to that preceding the tripartite agreement, at least with regard to the balance of powers. Before this agreement we were in an unenviable position, but now the Christian position is good because of the existing stability and coordination at various political levels for deepening the understanding of political proposals at this stage and unifying all convictions and proposals, as compared with the differences existing in the free territories. Therefore, what was once possible for the president of the republic or any other party to accept is no longer possible to accept because of this prevailing understanding.

The position of Syria and its allies is today different from that position existing before the tripartite agreement. The leftist parties and other factions are divided and lost; they have just emerged from a military conflict among themselves, a conflict that will inevitably continue because the factions have their own views and because there is no unified political plan that would, even temporarily, bring them together.

As for what you have mentioned about the attempts at understanding between the regime and Syria being opposed by the Lebanese Forces, our opposition is not absolute, especially if negotiations are held between the regime and Syria, that is between President al-Jumayyil and Damascus. We do, however, have reservations about the substance. If the substance of these contacts is acceptable and does not harm our political principles, this is fine, especially if it will achieve some interim relief in the situation. But if the substance is not acceptable, the regime and those negotiating on its behalf will not proceed. [passage omitted]

[Dahir] Given that, as you have mentioned, you reject Syrian and Israeli seizure of parts of Lebanon, why do you focus only on what you call "Syrian occupation" in your statements without making any reference to the Israeli occupation?

[Dr Ja'ja'] We sometimes talk about occupations and foreign armies and at other times we specifically talk about the Syrian presence. The reason for this is that the Syrian presence forms 90 percent of the occupation.

Undoubtedly, if you check our statements you will find that we often call for the withdrawal of all foreign armies from Lebanon. But sometimes we stress the Syrian presence because it is the most intrusive and influential and because it puts pressure on the Lebanese regime and various factions.

[Dahir] Do you not think your proposed formula for a solution is imaginary and could expose you to various threats?

[Dr Ja'ja'] With regard to your saying that the plan is imaginary, the least that can be said is that a Lebanese is entitled to dream of an independent and sovereign homeland. If you think this is something imaginary, then life is not worth living in this country.

There are principles that never change under any conditions; for instance, freedom of the homeland must always be considered at all stages. No tactics can influence these principles.

Political contacts can allow for some idle talk, but there is no room to maneuver under immutable principles. Therefore, I do not consider imaginary a solution we propose for freeing our country and making it a sovereign state. In fact, the least that can be said is that citizens should work toward building a free, sovereign, and independent homeland at any cost. [passage omitted]

[Dahir] Some believe that a solution to Lebanon's crisis is remote because the disputing factions are ostensibly calling for rebuilding the country while secretly obstructing the way to any solutions. This is because each faction has its own view about a future state and its role in the structure of that state. Does this not apply to the Lebanese Forces? Would the forces be satisfied with a solution in which they had not participated?

[Dr Ja'ja'] Undoubtedly, each faction in the arena has its own political plan; we also have ours. If we did not think our plan suitable, we would not have adopted it. We consider this plan to represent the inspirations, ambitions, and hopes of Christians and most other people and, therefore, we will work toward achieving it. But for you to say that various factions are calling for the return of the state and yet at the same time hampering it is an inaccurate description of the situation. When the state began to collapse during the 1973 incidents, there were no armed organizations — no "Lebanese Forces" or others, I believe; it collapsed from within. What we must do now is rebuild the state, but not in a way that would permit the recurrence of such a collapse. Therefore, it is not possible to accept such an existing state. I do not want Rashid Karami's state or the 1943 state because they symbolize a war and a collapse which already exist in Lebanon.

It is essential in this regard to differentiate between positions. Am I to assign powers to Rashid Karami? Why? So that he can ask the Syrian Army to enter West Beirut or other Lebanese territories tomorrow? Or so that he can expose this people to corruption and destruction? Or in order for him to divide the Lebanese Army and the state's institutions, and so on? Certainly not. The state in its present structure cannot change the situation or rebuild the homeland, nor can it build a society; for all these reasons we will not assign powers to this state. But if we had a state capable of rebuilding a homeland and rescuing a people, a state that was truly responsible, we would then immediately hand over matters to it. In fact, all that we are doing is aimed at achieving this objective, because you know no one wants to spend his life as a militia member. Consequently, the residents in the free territories do not want to remain in such a situation indefinitely. Those who established militias or institutions equivalent to the state were in fact forced to do so. "Your brother is not doing what he is doing because he is a hero but because he is forced to" [Arabic saying], and he is forced to because no state exists. The state's institutions have vanished and now we must shoulder new responsibilities and consequences. Thus, people are forced to set up institutions however they can in order to fill the gap resulting from the paralysis of the state institutions.

[Dahir] But all the new institutions have been unsuccessful in terms of personnel or their structure and have proved to be an unacceptable alternative to the state. In fact, people are now nostalgic for the old state despite its faults, shortcomings, and defects.

[Dr Ja'ja'] The situation we are in today has progressed naturally, especially on the social and economic levels. It is much worse than in the past because at these levels there was always a state that was able to act, despite its shortcomings. But at present the state's institutions are completely paralyzed. As a private institution, we do not interfere; we did not and will not interfere in this field; not because we do not want to do so, but because the necessary facilities and resources are not available to us.

Let us be specific: We, the Lebanese Forces, are a true political, military, and security institution. The people complain there was a huge gap in public services and in the economic situation before

1975, but the state existed and managed to function with the minimum resources, although it was infested with corruption. Now the state plays no role at all, and no one has been able to take its place in this field. Therefore, this comparison is not realistic.

[Dahir] You consider the Lebanon of 1943 past and its formula expired. It is known this formula was based on a concept of coexistence and unity, but some say this formula cannot tolerate any defects, either in substance or in application, on the part of politicians, whose failure does not justify destroying the formula. There are also those who believe that the Christian ranks are divided into two factions: The first is under your leadership and calls for this formula to be dropped; the second — which receives support from the Maronite patriarchate, President al-Jumayyil, some Phalange leaders, and President Franjiyah — calls for the formula to be developed. This means that there are differences among the Christian ranks. What is your opinion?

[Dr Ja'ja'] First, with regard to the charter and the formula, the charter is indispensable because I do not believe that any one of the Lebanese factions intends to expel others.

Thus it is everybody's duty to accept the charter. For our part we consider the charter a sacred matter that should not be disputed. The charter means accepting a formula of coexistence among all Lebanese factions. But with regard to the formula, that is a different matter.

In my view the formula that existed in the past was abnormal and invalid because politics, like other social sciences, is based on accurate knowledge. Any society or state consists of numerous communities that require a particular formula for a particular situation under which to live and build a true homeland. [passage omitted]

As for Christian differences over this matter, they occur naturally. Just imagine a society without different views among its leaders on any subject of similar complexity. Imagine that we apply the English saying "to see eye to eye," that is, for all of us to see things similarly. You know political dialogue is maintained in all countries and societies, especially new ones. The important thing is there should ultimately be unanimity on political stands and issues. As for political proposals and their philosophical backgrounds, there is nothing to stop discussions and differences from occurring. This will in fact gradually prove which views are right and which are wrong.

[Dahir] Do we understand from you that there are no differences among major Christian authorities over basic options?

[Dr Ja'ja'] Naturally, I do not not believe any Christian authority would say: These people should be expelled from here, or these should remain here without freedom to exist. All authorities agree on the set objectives. They all agree there should be a free Christian existence, with all its cultural and social aspects. Therefore, there is agreement on the essence but there are differences over the details.

There are people who, for instance, believe that the objective can be achieved through the 1943 formula, while others believe that it can be achieved through a combined formula. Thus, the matter becomes one of constant ideological exchange in order to reach a clear and accurate formula. However, a sequence of events makes one viewpoint outweigh the other.

[Dahir] Would this not lead to an ideological or political clash, if this term is correct?

[Dr Ja'ja'] Not a clash, Brother, an ideological exchange.

[Dahir] Let us consider it an ideological exchange. Would not what you term an ideological exchange possibly lead to a military confrontation in the eastern area?

[Dr Ja'ja'] No, no. Why should we always assume that any discussion on a particular subject will lead to a military confrontation? [passage omitted]

[Dahir] Most factions look on the Syrian entry into West Beirut as a positive factor toward firmly establishing security, maintaining stability, and freeing people from military chaos and the aggression of armed men, while you....

[Dr Ja'ja'] (interrupting) To whom are you referring when you say "most factions"? Are the Druze most of the factions? Hizballah? Or Al-Sunnah?

[Dahir] I mean that you are continuing to escalate a campaign against Syria's entry into Beirut. Does Dr Ja'ja' not believe that a dialogue with Damascus is better than adopting a tough stand against it?

[Dr Ja'ja'] For our part we are always ready to negotiate with Damascus or others because problems can only be solved within a framework of dialogue. But for me to hand the country over to Damascus or others is highly unlikely.

A serious dialogue with Damascus should be promoted on the basis that Lebanon is an independent homeland in which independent people live. It is not true that there is one people in Lebanon and Syria. We welcome anyone who understands these principles. But we do not, under any circumstances, intend to give a contract of ownership to anyone in Lebanon under the slogan of dialogue, no matter how many sacrifices they have made.

[Dahir] But it has been reported that contacts are being made between you and the Syrians.

[Dr Ja'ja'] Relations are severed.

[Dahir] Some sources assert that an official from the Lebanese Forces has made direct contacts with Syrian military officials.

[Dr Ja'ja'] That is not true.

[Dahir] Are you sure?

[Dr Ja'ja'] Certainly. There are no contacts being made with the Syrians.

[Dahir] Do you believe there can be a solution to Lebanon's crisis without Syria, which holds most of the trump cards in the Arab arena, especially as Syria returned to Beirut under regional and international cover?

[Dr Ja'ja'] The solution as we, the Lebanese citizens, see it is to liberate our country and establish a political system that secures the rights of all those living here on its soil.

When you ask me about how we reach a solution without Syria, you remind me of those who base their calculations on the tactics of the balance of power, meaning that Syria is a big country "occupying Lebanon," therefore, there is no other solution but to do what Syria wants. This is in fact what you mean by saying a solution cannot be reached without Syria because it is a power to be reckoned with. We are not ready to work toward such a solution. But as for the balance of power, it is constantly changing.

[Dahir] The Lebanese Forces' analyses indicate Syria is preparing, through its current role, for the next presidential election in 1988 and....

[Dr Ja'ja'] This is true and, as we have confronted all other moves, we will confront this move.

[Dahir] Does this mean that you will be against the candidate nominated by Syria?

[Dr Ja'ja'] Certainly, to the end. We are against any "Babrak Karmal" Syria may impose on us.

[Dahir] Does this mean that you have already begun your presidential election campaign?

[Dr Ja'ja'] We have not yet begun the campaign. When it does begin we will certainly have the final word.

[Dahir] It has been reported that Samir Ja'ja' has adopted a social security plan to create a comfortable popular situation around him which will allow him to enter the presidential election campaign personally or through a candidate nominated by him.

[Dr Ja'ja'] That is not true at all, because we are a long way from presidential elections. Our concern is resistance; if the factor of steadfastness were not available in our society, we would be unable to exist and would be resisting aimlessly. If society is not steadfast, there is no resistance. Therefore, we must be in a sound, correct, and healthy position within the society in order to resist. What you have said lies within this context.

[Dahir] There are those who accuse you of "messing up" while awaiting the presidential election in September 1988....

[Dr Ja'ja'] (interrupting) Tell me how I can mess up and what things I can mess up? [passage omitted]

[Dahir] Is it not possible that Israel might come in and create a new situation like that of June 1982?

[Dr Ja'ja'] Before we reach that point, let us answer the question relating to the subject of "messing up." What plan for solution have we messed up? Were there any plans presented to mess up, except the tripartite agreement, which we are in fact proud of messing up? We all agree that the tripartite agreement was not a plan, and we repeat that we are proud of messing it up. The tripartite plan is a capitulationist plan. Tell me of any other plan we have messed up!

[Dahir] For instance, the greater Beirut plan and the recently proposed unification of the capital.

[Dr Ja'ja'] That is not true. The greater Beirut plan was not presented. No one has presented anything like that to us. Negotiations are still taking place. We have repeatedly pointed out that we are not against the plan if it will lead to interim results that do no fundamental harm.

[Dahir] If you are a presidential candidate, why do you not openly state the fact?

[Dr Ja'ja'] It is still too early.

[Dahir] There are those who say that you are awaiting changes in regional situations that would allow Israel to intervene as it did in 1982 and, consequently, create a suitable situation for you under Israeli intervention.

[Dr Ja'ja'] I would classify that as speculation. Can you indicate when the sequence of events you have mentioned will occur? We are now thinking of how to remove the armies present in Lebanon, not how to bring other armies in.

[Dahir] It has been said that preparing the atmosphere for a new Israeli intervention lies within the framework of a plan you are adopting. What is the truth about this plan?

[Dr Ja'ja'] We basically have a clear political plan and we should be prepared for all possibilities. But your sequence of events lies within the framework of speculation and, in my opinion, is not based on fact. I see no practical indications such developments are likely to take place.

[Dahir] Are the Lebanese Forces in their present position capable of entering the presidential election campaign without depending on regional factors and developments?

[Dr Ja'ja'] Yes. Why not?

[Dahir] How?

[Ja'ja'] You know that considerations can still change and, therefore, we cannot yet say how.

[Dahir] We have noticed that the Lebanese Forces are trying to get closer to Walid Junblatt and....

[Dr Ja'ja'] (interrupting) This is true, and the converse is also true.

[Dahir] Do we understand from this that there is an intention to establish relations with Junblatt on the basis of a Christian-

Druze formula based on the principle that "my enemy's enemy is my friend," even though Junblatt seized the mountain and the district from you?

[Dr Ja'ja'] There is no doubt about this. But you know that major moves involve major issues. Yes, the Christians have a problem with the Druze in the mountains, but the Christians also have a problem with an "occupied" state. Rapprochement between us and Junblatt is not based on the rule that "my enemy's enemy is my friend." We have expressed readiness to sit at the negotiating table with any Lebanese parties to discuss potential solutions. I believe that internal reconciliation in Lebanon will be greatly helped if all foreign armies, especially the Syrian Army, are withdrawn. This is our firm position, and this rapprochement is not taking place because of the recent Syrians' entry into Beirut or because Walid Junblatt distanced himself from them.

[Dahir] Are there any direct contacts with Walid Junblatt?

[Dr Ja'ja'] Cautiously, because of his current position.

[Dahir] It has been observed that the Lebanese Forces sympathize with the fundamentalist trends like Hizballah, for instance....

[Dr Ja'ja'] That is not true. [passage omitted]

[Dahir] Anyone who examines your stands carefully will find that you tend to move closer to any party that is hostile to Syria and distance yourselves from those who support Syria in Lebanon. For instance, you sympathize with Junblatt on this basis, especially because he fought with the communists against Amal; you also sympathize with Hizballah against Amal and Syria, and with the Palestinians against Syria, even though the war originally began in Lebanon between the Christians and the Palestinians in 1975 and not between the Christians and Syria. Do you not believe that the Christians might in the end pay dearly because of this policy?

[Dr Ja'ja'] Many aspects of your presentation are wrong. We began to sympathize with the Druze 2 years ago and not after the Syrians' entry into West Beirut. As for sympathizing with Hizballah and the fundamentalists, that is not true. We have not been forced to enter into constant battle with certain parties when there was no justification for it, even if we and they were in complete disagreement. We fought our fiercest battle against the Palestinians when there were reasons for it. Amal entered into a comprehensive war and failed to remove a single Palestinian camp. We fought against the Palestinians in a minor war and without help from anyone and managed to control six camps completely. This should not be misunderstood.

It is also natural that we adopt hard and clear positions against any parties helping Syria to enter Lebanon. Our position toward Amal lies in this context. Amal provides Syria with a Lebanese cover that helps it achieve its ambitions in Lebanon.

[Dahir] Is it true that you have opened the door to contacts with Israel?

[Dr Ja'ja'] We are ready to establish relations with any party or country that will help liberate Lebanon.

[Dahir] Have the reasons for the recent dispute between you and Israel been eliminated?

[Dr Ja'ja'] We are pursuing a policy completely independent of any party or country, be it a regional country or a big power. Our policy is derived from the interest and the future of our people. It does not concern us whether our policy satisfies some or angers others. This is not our concern; our concern is the interest of our people and our homeland.

[Dahir] Why are your Arab relations weak? Why are these relations still at a low level?

[Dr Ja'ja'] That is not true. Do not forget that states, whether Arab or non-Arab, find it difficult to establish relations with private institutions, especially military ones. In fact our relations with some Arab countries could be stronger than the Lebanese state's relations.

[Dahir] Do you have relations with the Soviet Union?

[Dr Ja'ja'] Yes, relations with the Soviet Union are still maintained.

[Dahir] Is it true that the Soviets advised you to sever your relations with Israel?

[Dr Ja'ja'] We do not accept advice from anyone on these matters. At any rate, we did not discuss this subject.

[Dahir] Have the Soviets made any mediation efforts between you and other Lebanese factions, or are they leaving internal affairs to the Syrians?

[Dr Ja'ja'] The Soviets' position is very sensitive because Syria is their strategic ally. At the same time the Soviet Union tries to view the problems of small nations in a progressive and realistic way. But how can the Soviet Union adjust between its strategic ally, Syria, and the deep Soviet understanding of the Lebanese situation? This takes time.

[Dahir] Did Moscow not mediate between you and the Syrians?

[Dr Ja'ja'] Contacts did not reach that point. [passage omitted]

[Dahir] Have any contacts been made by the Western states, concerned with the hostages, with a view to releasing Iranian hostages said to be detained by you since 1982, on the grounds that the release of the Western hostages in Lebanon is conditional on the release of these Iranian hostages?

[Dr Ja'ja'] We have no Iranian hostages, and no one has contacted us in this regard. [passage omitted]

[Dahir] You have established the social security initiative. Does this mean a change in the Lebanese Forces' policy, as you said you could do nothing on the economic level on the grounds that this was a state affair?

[Dr Ja'ja'] We are still committed to our stand, and we cannot deal with economic issues that the state or others have the means and resources to solve. All that we are trying to do, with our limited capabilities, is to soothe the bleeding Lebanese wound until the state is able to find a radical solution. Reasonable donations have begun to reach us and we should be able to carry out this project, which is fundamental to society's steadfastness at this stage. [passage omitted]

[Dahir] Do you believe that Christian sympathy with the Lebanese Forces is still at its peak, as it was when the Forces were first launched?

[Dr Ja'ja'] Undoubtedly, this sympathy still exists in depth. But also, the war, which has now continued for more than 12 years, has exhausted everyone. The sympathy still exists despite what is being circulated. Proof of this is the continuing work of our institution, which would not have been possible without the surrounding positive environment.

[Dahir] In light of all the complications, are you optimistic about a solution in the near future?

[Dr Ja'ja'] Certainly. There is a solution for all people, but they tend to cast doubt and lose hope simply because they want a quick solution, although it is known that the Lebanese problem is the most complicated problem of the 20th century and it should be viewed from that angle.

Certainly there is a solution, but that solution requires time and effort because of the size and complexity of the problem. I call on everyone to be optimistic, because a solution will come. I believe this is realistic and not wishful thinking.

Ja'ja', Sham'un on Reopening of Beirut Airport
NC011041 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Dr Samir Ja'ja', commander in chief of the Lebanese Forces, has declared his insistence that all airports be opened. He said: Either there will be airports for all Lebanese, or there will be no airport for anyone.

Commenting on the announcement by Rashid Karami, the manager of Syrian affairs in Lebanon, concerning the resumption of operations at Beirut airport, former President Camille Sham'un said: The airport road is still unsafe. Sham'un, who had just emerged from a meeting of the Lebanese Front, stated that all military airfields, including Halat airport, should be opened to air traffic.

Middle East Airlines sources have asserted that the airline will cable insurance companies in London today informing them of Karami's decision to reopen the airport this week.

Meanwhile, internal security forces have closed down the road leading to Beirut International Airport after it came under intensive sniper fire. A number of citizens were wounded in the shooting.

Lebanese Front Response
NC011433 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Statement issued by the Lebanese Front following its meeting on 1 April — recorded]

[Text] The Lebanese Front has met, and after considering and discussing the issues, it has made the following statement:

1. The Front has discussed the worsening bread shortage and the citizens' suffering as a result of this, in addition to their humiliation in forming lines to get this commodity. It has studied the reasons behind this artificial crisis and decided to establish a committee to discuss the issue with Economy Minister Victor Qasir, as well as to place the Front's capabilities and apparatus at his disposal in order to decisively end this crisis and the profiteering of those who benefit at the expense of the people's wealth and dignity.

2. In response to Prime Minister Rashid Karami's announcement concerning resuming operations at Khaldah airport, the Front declares the following:

a. The prime minister, by adopting a policy of boycott, negativism, and rejection, is responsible for suspending all state institutions and facilities, particularly that of Khaldah airport. The closure of this airport resulted from Mr Karami's refusal to allow the national carrier, Middle East Airlines [MEA], to use Halat airport, even temporarily, until the security problems affecting Khaldah airport and the road leading to it were eliminated. The prime minister's rejectionism reached such an extent that he launched a frenzied diplomatic campaign against those countries that had agreed to permit planes taking off from Halat airport to land in their territories. These actions caused the citizens severe hardship, substantial losses to MEA, and the closure of Khaldah airport.

b. In the existing security situation and the current political situation in West Beirut, we believe that it has become necessary to make a decision that would allow MEA to use all the Lebanese military airfields, even temporarily, for civil transportation, prior to resuming operations at Khaldah airport. The Front points out that there are several military airports qualified to take on this task, such as at Halat, Riyaq, and Al-Qulay'at.

c. The Lebanese Front urgently requests the prime minister to make a decision, before the end of this week, permitting MEA to use, even temporarily, all military airports for civil transportation, in addition to Khaldah airport. It reminds him that his adoption of decisions unilaterally and arbitrarily, and his persistence in disregarding the call of reason and conscience and the voice of the people, led at the beginning of this year to the suspension of operations at Khaldah airport and the destruction of two MEA planes, one totally and the other partially. The Front warns him now, as it has in the past, of the consequences of deciding to reopen Khaldah airport alone among all airports, in a unilateral move and without reaching prior understanding with all concerned parties. It holds him responsible for all the difficulties and disasters that have happened and that might still happen.

O Lebanese, the Lebanese Front is your front. Long may you live! Long live Lebanon!

French Embassy Reportedly Reopens in West Beirut

NC011604 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1530 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] French Ambassador to Lebanon Paul Blanc told Prime Minister Rashid Karami today that the French Embassy in West Beirut has been reopened for doing business with the Lebanese public. The ambassador himself will go to work on the embassy's premises in West Beirut several days each week.

Ambassador Samih al-Baba, head of the Foreign Ministry's Political Department, has asked the French ambassador to facilitate the travel of the Lebanese people to France, particularly those wanting to go there for medical treatment.

Shatila Inhabitants Appeal to Gorbachev on Siege

NC020520 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] The Palestinian Popular Committee in Shatila camp last night addressed an appeal to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. In its appeal, the committee urged Gorbachev to take action to end the siege of the camp, whose inhabitants are suffering from hunger, disease, malnutrition, death, and sniper fire. The committee said: Our living conditions are far worse than the famine Leningrad endured during WW II.

Security Situation in West Beirut Camps Updated

NC011802 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] The DFLP has declared that four Palestinians were injured in Burj al-Barajinah today. The front added that the Amal Movement bombarded the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps with tanks and rockets last night. Meanwhile, Amal has affirmed that tension currently prevails in Burj al-Barajinah, and notes that intermittent fighting raged around the camp last night.

In another development, the Amal Movement issued a statement today, saying that the entry of provisions into the camps will resume as soon as the UNRWA director returns to Beirut on Friday.

According to security reports, violent clashes broke out along the combat lines of Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah this afternoon.

National Resistance Fighters Attack Israeli Patrol

NC011741 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1530 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] A national resistance group used machine guns, rockets, and artillery to attack a joint patrol consisting of enemy personnel and their agents near Tallat al-Huqban at 0600 today.

A 15-minute clash ensued between the resistance fighters and occupation forces, leaving an enemy vehicle damaged and 12 enemy personnel dead or wounded.

At 0615, resistance fighters used 60-mm mortars to bombard the enemy position in Tallat al-Huqban. One soldier was killed and four others wounded.

Meanwhile, the town of Kafra has been coming under intermittent shellfire from enemy positions in Tallat al-Huqban since this morning.

Date for Al-Jumayyil Summit Linked to Reform

JN310734 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0630 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 31 Mar (WAKH) — Today's edition of Abu Dhabi's *Al-Ittihad* notes that the Lebanese presidential delegation sent to Damascus asked Syrian officials to fix an early date for the 12th summit between Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, which is designed to reach an agreement on political reforms in Lebanon.

The paper adds that Damascus informed the members of the delegation that it could not fix a date for the summit until Al-Jumayyil reaches agreement with the opposition ministers on the questions of reform, national accord, and the special relationship with Syria. This is all the more pressing when one recalls that the presidents have held 11 summits, and that none have led to a solution for the Lebanese crisis.

Foreign Minister Receives Lebanese Delegation

JN011552 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met this afternoon with a delegation from the national independent Lebanese grouping, which included Dr Samir Sabbagh and Ahmad al-Halabi. The talks during the meeting focused on the situation in Lebanon.

State Minister Receives Arab League Official

JN011859 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs, received Lakhdar Ibrahimi, Arab League assistant secretary general, this afternoon. Talks centered on the current situation in Lebanon and the Arab world, as well as Syria's efforts to achieve stability in fraternal Lebanon. Syria's attempts to send food and medicine to those affected by the incidents there were examined as well.

People's Assembly Meets, Approves Agreements

JN311923 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Excerpt] The People's Assembly met this evening under Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi. Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, Mahmud Qaddur, deputy prime minister for services affairs, and other ministers also attended the session. The People's Assembly discussed several reports submitted by the Arab and Foreign Relations Committee, the Planning Committee, the Production Committee, and the Committee on Agriculture and Irrigation. Their subjects included a number of draft bills and reports presented by the special committees of the People's Assembly.

Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade, Dr Ghasub al-Rifa'i, minister of health, and Dr Qahtan al-Suyufi, minister of finance, participated in the discussions.

As a result of these deliberations, the People's Assembly approved the draft bill on ratifying an executive program on health with the GDR. It also approved a draft bill endorsing an agreement guaranteeing the loan for pesticides granted to the Syrian-Jordanian Industrial Company and signed with the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development. [passage omitted]

Luxembourg: Gorbachev Invites Peres To Visit

TA011713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Radio Luxembourg announced about an hour ago that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has invited Shim'on Peres to visit Moscow. Our correspondent Gid'on Kouts reports that the radio station did not give any details on the source of the report, but made sure to announce that this is not an April Fools Day prank.

In Jerusalem, Mr Peres said that the fact that Israel is not ruling out the possibility that the Soviet Union will participate in an international conference has had positive ramifications in Moscow. Mr Peres added, however, that the Likud is suggesting a halt to the political process. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that, in an address to activists of the central stream of the Labor Party, Mr Peres denied reports that Israel has an agreement with the United States that an international conference will not be able to force an arrangement and that it will not prevent direct negotiations. Our correspondent Jeff Black reports that Immigration and Absorption Minister Ya'aqov Tzur expressed himself in a similar vein. He said that the Likud's opposition to an international conference would endanger Soviet Jews. He was addressing participants of a demonstration on behalf of refuseniks held against the Knesset.

Unconfirmed by Peres Office

TA011903 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] The foreign minister's office knows nothing whatsoever about an invitation to Mr Peres to visit Moscow. Such a report was broadcast this evening by Luxembourg Radio in Paris, and for the time being it has not been confirmed by any other source.

USSR's Gerasimov: No Invitation, Reciprocity

TA020910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] The spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry has denied reports that Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres will soon be invited to visit Moscow, or that an agreement has been reached on flights to Israel either directly from the Soviet Union or via Romania. Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov told our correspondent Gid'on Remez that a Soviet consular delegation may indeed come to Israel soon, but there should be no talk about a reciprocal visit by an Israeli delegation to Moscow. He also denied any connection between the consular delegation and the establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel.

Spokesman Gerasimov added that no commitments whatsoever on emigration were made to the Jewish leaders who visited Moscow. At the same time, he emphasized that a promise was given that the requests for exit permits will be reexamined with a favorable approach, and said that the number of such permits given to Jews has grown over the last few months. The Soviet spokesman said that no pledge was made to allow a specific number of Jews to leave.

Shamir, Peres Discuss Soviet 'Mass Emigration'

TA012005 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1948 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres this evening discussed the possibility of an imminent mass emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union. Messrs Shamir and Peres held a tete-a-tete meeting this evening. Our political correspondent Yig'al Goren reports that the prime minister's office and the Foreign Ministry have not received any reports about a possible meeting between the Soviet leader and Minister Shim'on Peres. Luxembourg Radio broadcast a brief report this evening according to which Mr Gorbachev has invited Mr Peres for talks in Moscow. Our correspondent in Paris Yo'av Tocker reports that the source of the report is Luxembourg Radio, quoting diplomats at the French Embassy in Moscow. According to the report, the invitation to Mr Peres has already been sent or will be sent within a few days.

Our political correspondent adds that officials in the prime minister's office say the possibility of a mass emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union should be taken seriously. It seems that Messrs Shamir and Peres also discussed the appointment of a new ambassador in Washington this evening.

Envoy to Paris Cautious on Links With USSR

LD011718 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Studio interview with Ovadya Sofer, Israel's Ambassador to Paris — live]

[Excerpts] The USSR and Israel are very seriously contemplating resuming normal relations: It was the Israeli Ambassador to the United States Me'ir Rosenne who announced this yesterday, pointing out that the two countries are going to exchange delegations to see to what extent a normalization of the situation is possible. [passage omitted]

[Studio] Mr Ovadya Sofer, good day. You are the ambassador of Israel in Paris. What is your immediate reaction?

[Sofer] My reaction is that it is not ruled out, but I would be cautious about the restoration of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Israel for the moment. [passage omitted]

[Studio] Mr Ovadya Sofer, I repeat that you are the Israeli ambassador in France, and we shall now return with you to this possible resumption of diplomatic relations between Moscow and Tel Aviv after 20 years of separation, after 20 years of divorce. We gave this news right at the beginning of this bulletin as it is obvious that if that were to happen it would be a considerable event.

[Sofer] Absolutely. I think that there is tangible interest for the USSR to resume its relations with Israel. Through its unilateral breaking off of relations in 1967, the USSR excluded itself from the peace process, excluded itself in a way from the region. As you know, the Arab-Israeli conflict has two sides — Israel and the Arab world — and it excluded itself from Israel — all the more so because Israel today is considered one of the most industrialized countries of the region and, hence, a technological power in a way. The absence of the USSR is very marked. So those are the tangible Soviet interests.

We also have some interest in taking up again with the USSR, but we have priorities. First of all, there is the first priority of the Jews in the USSR who are oppressed — there is a whole nation of between 3 and 4 million — that is still not the exact figure — who would like to have freedom of worship and a great number of them want to immigrate into Israel. We know these figures: There are 400,000 of them who have made a formal request; there are many others who would do so if they were not hounded for making this request. So Israel thinks that as a first priority, to reestablish a climate of understanding between the USSR and Israel, the USSR must ameliorate its policy toward the Jews of the USSR.

[Studio] Yes, but indeed insofar as it seems that Mr Gorbachev has been proceeding with a certain number of liberalization measures since he came to power, one may in factbelieve that on that point he might satisfy you, and at least this would be a beginning for a resumed understanding?

[Sofer] One may be full of hope. [passage omitted] I am skeptical; I am a bit cautious. I have to say that at a certain time I was involved in conversations, in talks with Soviet officials, even here in Paris. I think dialogue is important in itself and the dialogue has been started. I would be very cautious, however, about the results. I do not think that, with everything that is moving in the USSR today — and there are things moving — I think that in the final analysis the system has remained as it was. I think that the West should be cautious, as well as Israel. [passage omitted]

Peres Adviser Analyzes USSR, S. Africa Policies

TA011818 Tel Aviv Educational Television in Hebrew 1500 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Interview with Dr Nimrod Novik, political adviser to Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, by Gid'on Reicher — live in the studio]

[Text] [Reicher] Are the signs that have finally come that the Soviets are truly thawing relations with us harbingers of good tidings?

[Novik] If we begin by voicing the necessary cautionary qualification that the proof of the pudding is in the eating, then the answer would be positive. We have long been engaged in deliberations with the Soviets in three areas: bilateral ties, their position on the Middle East political process, and perhaps most importantly, their attitude toward Soviet Jews — an issue with two levels: first, the right to leave the Soviet Union and emigrate to Israel; and second, the right of the Jews to live as Jews in the Soviet Union. In all three areas, we have noticed preliminary signs of Soviet openness, although, really, one must not overrate the assessment of these signs.

[Reicher] We have talked about signs for a long time now, and you yourself have frequently been our guest in these studios and have mentioned those signals. The question is: When do you in the Foreign Ministry expect an official announcement that will finally determine the future of our relations, if you expect this at all?

[Novik] Such things do not occur overnight or in one fell swoop. Although we are not known for our patience, the turning point, or the take-off point, was very significant. It was preceded by much preparatory work, but it certainly indicated what was to come. This was the meeting between Peres and Shevardnadze approximately 6 months ago at UN Headquarters. The conversation was very different from any previous meeting between Israeli and Soviet foreign ministers. The openness was of a different quality altogether, and since then the contacts have become more frequent and intense and their substance has changed vastly. The thesis that the issue of Soviet Jews is not exclusively an internal Soviet affair is now supported by third parties as well, not only Israel. In other words, Jews from the United States and from other places have become acceptable to the Soviets as having a legitimate right to raise the issue.

I do not suppose that the moment will come when the Soviet Union will say: We have been wrong and now we are embarking on a new policy; or we have changed our line. I presume that only if we follow events closely and continue to foster contacts will we be able to note the change, which is taking place under our very noses at this very time.

[Reicher] I understand what you are saying — namely, that we should not expect a dramatic announcement. But what about an invitation to Peres to visit Moscow, for example? We have seen reports about this. Is there any chance of such a meeting?

[Novik] I too have seen the reports, although I do not know what they were based on. There is no greater chance of this today than 2 weeks ago. Naturally we are highly interested in pursuing the political dialogue, which I think is very important. After all, the Soviet Union is a senior neighbor of the Middle East, and it can, given its special relations with some of the more extremist regional countries, make a positive contribution. Thus, any change in the Soviet attitude, whether toward Israel or toward the peace process as a whole, will of course be welcomed. Our dialogue with them is still sporadic and irregular, in the form of meetings between diplomats here and there, many of which are prearranged although most are accidental. Of course, if the Soviet Union should think it necessary to once again maintain this dialogue on the foreign minister level, we will no doubt welcome this. But I cannot say that either we or they have made appeals toward that end at this stage.

[Reicher] I would like to take advantage of the fact that you are in our studios to ask you about the somewhat embarrassing report on the supply of Israeli weapons to South Africa, due to be published in the United States today. Has it already caused or will it cause us damage in the U.S. public or administration?

[Novik] I believe there is greater understanding both for our policy and for the steps we have taken recently in view of the fact that this policy is based mainly on one central principle, which is that the entire international context has changed. After all, the major turning point in the attitude of the entire democratic West toward South Africa occurred no earlier than 6 months ago, upon the declaration of the emergency act in that country. This is also when we here began to take a much more stringent look at what is happening there and how Israel should react to it. So without jumping overboard and acknowledging our relative size and status, very significant decisions were made here in this context, including the decision to set up a committee that is expected to provide the cabinet with recommendations on the matter in 2 months. I believe that people in Washington are definitely congratulating the Israeli Government for its decision, waiting to hear about it.

[Reicher] Thank you, Mr Novik.

[Novik] You are quite welcome.

MA'ARIV Assesses Soviet Strategy for Conference

TA271445 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 27 Mar 87 p B10

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "The 'Affair' in the Making"]

[Text] Hanna Sinyurah and Fayiz Abu Rahmah were summoned to Shim'on Peres' office in Jerusalem, but they cannot visit King Husayn in his palace in Amman. Somebody assigned them as member of the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the international conference without taking into consideration that Husayn does not let them cross into Jordan. Although Husayn joins Mubarak in talking about the inclusion of the PLO in the negotiations, he does not allow Mustafa 'Abd al-Nabi al-Natshah, Dr Hatim Abu Ghazalah, Jamil al-Tarifi, Faysal al-Husayni as well as Sinyurah and Abu Rahmah — all of them PLO supporters — to enter his kingdom. The PLO's agreement to include them in a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation was enough for Husayn to stop them from entering his country.

Peres has been justifying his agreement to an international conference by what Husayn told him, that he would not enter negotiations with Israel without a conference. However, Husayn did not think Israel would fail to understand that with Abu Rahmah, Sinyurah, and Al-Husayni he would not be able to enter negotiations, either with or without an international conference.

Husayn cannot grasp what has happened to the Israelis. After all, a few months ago the Americans told him that they were negotiating with Israel over Israeli financing of the Jordanian development plan in Judaea and Samaria. The United States proposed that Israel lend $30 million to Jordan out of the U.S. aid with a U.S. guarantee that the money would be paid back. The Israelis turned down the proposal without even suggesting a loan in the form of Israeli equipment so as to create some possible channel of cooperation.

Husayn also cannot understand why the Israelis fail to grasp the nature of the Soviet ploy regarding the international conference. He has learned from Soviet diplomats that the option of direct negotiations in the framework of an international conference renders itself open to negotiations with the Syrians over returning the Golan Heights and with the Lebanese over the evacuation of the security strip rather than over Judaea and Samaria. The Soviets reserve for themselves the right of full intervention in a solution of the Palestinian problem. In other words, they want to be full partners in determining the status of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District. As far as they are concerned, the international conference is merely a conduit to the inclusion of the PLO as a party to the deliberations to establish a Palestinian state that would separate Israel and Jordan.

Husayn told the Americans that he does not trust them and that is why he wants the Russians in. Nevertheless, he believes that the United States and Israel will pull the chestnuts out of the fire for him and will block the international conference. The result of such a conference might be a lethal blow to his political ambitions if it gives international legitimacy to the abrogation of his right over the West Bank of the Jordan River in favor of the Palestinians.

Husayn presumably gets furious when he is told that Peres, whom he knows as the author of the "Jordanian option," is courting his enemies in Judaea and Samaria.

Husayn will not overtly denounce Israel, but he will find other ways to react to this. Even the Americans, with whom we hold intimate talks, will not make any remarks against the Israeli drive to ensure the inclusion of the Soviets in the negotiations over an agreement in the Middle East.

The Reagan administration has not changed its fundamental position against a U.S.-Soviet condominium in the Middle East. Recently, a Soviet diplomat told his U.S. counterpart: "There is enough room in the region for both our countries, and we do not have to create a conflict over this." However, the proposal to share zones of influence is unacceptable to Washington. When Husayn suggested international accompaniment to negotiations with Israel, the Americans approached Israel, Egypt, and Jordan to discuss a method of accompaniment that would curb the USSR's status through prior Israeli-Egyptian-Jordanian agreement to reduce the conference's powers. Meanwhile, someone in Israel took the initiative and began running to and negotiating with the Soviets and, what is more serious, to publish embellished Soviet positions.

The Soviets adamantly told the Americans: The Palestinian issue will only be discussed by the international conference plenum with the PLO in attendance. There may be bilateral negotiations between Israel and Syria over a withdrawal from the Golan Heights or between Israel and Lebanon over the evacuation of the security zone, but as far as Judaea and Samaria are concerned this will only be discussed by the conference plenum. The astonished Americans informed Israel, and tendentious leaks about this were published in the Israeli media. Whoever leaked the content of this conversation went to great lengths to emphasize the Soviet willingness to foster direct negotiations at the conference but "forgot" to mention that that concerns the evacuation of the Golan Heights and southern Lebanon rather than the central issue of Judaea and Samaria, which the Soviets reserve for the conference plenum, where they would be active partners.

The Americans reminded the Soviets that they must initially resume their relations with Israel. The Russian diplomat replied: We have been talking to Israeli representatives in various places. The Americans relayed this information to Israel hoping that the latter would get the hint that reports about the talks are inadvertently serving Soviet interests. Jerusalem has not yet gotten the hint and Israeli representatives continue to delude themselves that the Soviet position has undergone a fundamental change.

In fact, what the Soviets have been saying in the last few weeks they said in a letter they sent to the United Nations on 29 July 1984, a week after the elections in Israel. In that letter, the Soviets proposed a preparatory committee of the superpowers and bilateral committees in the framework of a conference. That same year, the Soviet foreign minister promised Yitzhaq Shamir that the Soviets "would not force on you a solution you do not want and would not sneak in at night to seize a piece of your country." Those who are not familiar with events in the past get carried away by the Soviet argument that the conference did not come true because of the composition of the current Israeli Government. There is nothing new either in the remarks of the Soviet diplomat that the Soviet Union would not play the role of an extra in an international conference. The Soviet Union regards the conference as a means to strengthen its position in the Middle East. In view of the U.S.-Soviet arms negotiations, it suits the United States to rely on Israel to prevent the Soviets from attaining this strategic objective. However, Israel's insistence on an international conference might affect its image in Europe, whereas lenience might bring it to yet another confrontation with the United States. As was the case with "Irangate," the United States may get angry with us for not stopping it from getting tangled up in a conference that might deprive it of its supremacy in the Middle East.

The memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation signed by Israel and the United States in 1981, later abrogated by Menahem Begin, has not been redrafted. Instead of a written document, it was decided to build an understanding from the bottom up, step by step. Cooperation on the operational levels was supposed to increase understanding and generate absolute coordination. The "Irangate" and Pollard affairs have not changed the basic conception of the senior level but have created a climate of suspicion in the operational levels.

Given this climate, even the government's assurances to maintain the secrecy of the testimony of Pollard's three "handlers" only exacerbates suspicion. When Israel at the same time indirectly urges the European countries to pressure the United States to give in to the Soviet Union on the question of the Middle East, certain circles in Washington begin doubting the depth of the Israeli-U.S. understanding.

The European countries are entitled, if they so wish, to urge the United States to give in to Gorbachev in Europe; the United States will still probably proceed according to its own interests. However, given its wide-ranging relations with the United States, Israel should not encourage the European countries to mediate between the United States and the Soviet Union on the question of the Middle East. Israeli diplomatic activities to this effect are pushing the United States into a dead end, both from the point of view of the Middle East and of the relations between the superpowers.

If and when these efforts succeed and the United States becomes entangled in the webs of a partnership with the Soviet Union in the Middle East, Israel will be faced with a new affair: It will be accused of giving bad advice and of being overzealous, qualities that adversely affected the United States in the international arena, as was the case with the "Irangate" scandal.

In its talks with the Soviet Union, the United States is ardently fighting for Israel's two conditions for the inclusion of the Soviets: 1) a change in its policy toward the Jews and their freedom to emigrate; 2) a resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel.

The issue had best be left to high levels, in the hands of George Shultz, rather than be spoiled in casual talks by enthusiastic Israeli diplomats who are "discovering" Russia.

Rabin Repeats Conditions of USSR, PRC Peace Role

TA020556 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Excerpt] Following Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's conditions for the incorporation of the Soviet Union and the PRC in an international conference, if one is actually held, Minister Rabin agreed to permit the two superpowers to participate in the conference only if they resume their ties with Israel and if the Soviet Union opens its gates to the Jews. The defense minister addressed students at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem yesterday, as reported by Mikha'el Miro:

[Begin recording] [Miro] The defense minister says that it is unthinkable that Palestinians from the territories would not participate in peace negotiations, although he firmly objected to PLO participation. He believes an international conference could be held, provided that it resulted in direct negotiations. As for the participants, Yitzhaq Rabin says that he has no objection to these being representatives from the five countries who constitute the permanent members of the UN Security Council.

[Rabin] As for the Soviet Union, there are two conditions: the opening of its gates and allowing family reunifications here, and making this the sole basis for the exit of Jews from the Soviet Union; and maintaining diplomatic relations. As for the PRC, the condition is having diplomatic relations. Under these conditions — and by no means implying that an international conference is my dream — to reach peace negotiations, I will be ready to accept an international conference, as well, but only under the conditions I outlined above.

[Miro] Understanding for these problems, Yitzhaq Rabin said at the end of the meeting, will be shown, he hopes, in the arrival of a Soviet delegation to Israel.

[Rabin — in English] I don't expect much from the visit itself, but at the same time the visit, let's hope, symbolizes at least a hope for better understanding on the part of the Soviet Union to the two questions that Israel is bothered by them. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Katz Denies Report on Role in Pollard Affair

TA020855 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Apr 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by Ran Dagoni and Ehud Rabinowitz]

[Excerpts] Harold Katz, a 65-year old resident of Ramat Hasharon who has dual — U.S. and Israeli — citizenship, is suspected of having set up the contact between Jonathan Pollard and Avi'em Sela' and, later acting as the liaison for the transfer of the money paid to Pollard in return for the information he passed on. This is reported today by *The Washington Post*. According to *The Washington Post*, Katz, a lawyer, also owns an apartment in Washington where Pollard previously brought his Israeli contacts the documents he had obtained. [passage omitted]

Yesterday, reacting to *The Washington Post* report, Harold Katz told *Ma'ariv*: "The story is not true. I deny having given money to Pollard." To the question of whether he knows Jonathan Pollard, he replied: "No comment." Katz lives on Harishonim Street, Ramat Hasharon. [passage omitted]

Sources: Role 'Marginal'

TA020532 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] *The Washington Post* reports that the United States wishes to question another Israeli over the Pollard affair. He is attorney Harold Katz. The paper says Israel refuses to allow Katz to go to the United States to be questioned, even though the U.S. Justice Department expressed willingness to grant him immunity from prosecution. Israeli sources told a Voice of Israel reporter Katz's role in the affair is marginal.

Possible Questioning Viewed

TA021000 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0950 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] Back again to the Pollard affair and the new name involved in it: attorney Harold Katz. Israel is not prepared to allow Katz to be questioned in the United States on his role in the Pollard affair. This was just reported by our military correspondent Gay Zohar. Senior defense establishment sources noted at the same time that it would be possible to question him in Israel.

As will be recalled, reports in the United States said that Katz is suspected of forming the initial contact between Pollard and Avi'em Sela', after which he conveyed to Pollard the money paid to him in return for the intelligence information Pollard passed on to Israel.

Rabin on Pollard Affair, South Africa Sanctions

TA010541 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin last night reiterated that no one in the Israeli Government had knowledge of the activities of Jonathan Pollard. Referring to the government's recent decision to impose limited sanctions on South Africa, Rabin said Israel must not undertake any actions which might damage South Africa's Jewish community. The minister was speaking last night to a gathering of Israel Bonds representatives. Sabra Chartrand reports:

[Begin recording] [Chartrand] Rabin said the Defense Ministry is committed to maintaining its silence on the Pollard affair. I cannot disclose what we did, he said, but it was within the framework of strategic cooperation with the United States. As to relations between the United States and Israel, Rabin said: If I were to spell out the details, you would be surprised at how well everything is going. The minister admitted he could not say there had been no errors in the Pollard affair, but he insisted no one in the political echelon was responsible.

[Rabin — picked up in midsentence]...that people say in the United States, or certain people say, that the political level knew about the Pollard case. No member of the present government or the former government knew anything about the name Pollard, what he is doing, where he is located. And I can speak in the name of two governments. We apologized. We cooperated in the sense that there is no precedent for it in the history of relations, even of friendly countries.

[Chartrand] Rabin said he accepted the resignation of Air Force Colonel Avi'em Sela' 2 days ago because he was convinced by Sela' that the decision was a purely personal one. Sela's resignation, Rabin claimed, will remove obstacles to cooperation between the Israeli and American Air Forces.

On the subject of sanctions against South Africa, Rabin said the government does not hesitate to oppose apartheid, but Israel's primary responsibility is South African Jewry.

[Rabin] We are committed to fight apartheid and any form of racism, reduce our contacts with South Africa, not to sign new contracts; but we have to remember that there are 120,000 Jews who live there, and we are responsible that our acts might cause them some potential damage. [end recording]

Tamir Confers With African Ambassadors

TA011039 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 1 Apr 87 p 2

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir has conferred in New York with several ambassadors of African countries, including the United Nations ambassadors from Nigeria and Senegal, countries which do not have diplomatic relations with Israel. According to Tamir, they voiced the opinion that the Israeli Government's decision on South Africa will have a favorable effect on Israel's relations with black Africa.

Defense Sources View South Africa, Arms Exports

TA291032 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] The United States has not demanded that Israel brief it on the implementation of the decision not to renew contracts with South Africa. This was stated by defense sources. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the sources refused to speak of the scope of losses that the military industries will incur as a result of the government's decision on South Africa. It was also reported that due to the new criteria on arms exports from Israel, this year permits were given in 560 out of 800 cases requesting approval for military exports. Our correspondent reports that the new criteria restrict exporters of military equipment to certain countries, to certain types of products, and to limited periods of time.

New Procedures on Arms Deals Take Effect 1 Apr

TA011836 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] New procedures ensuring more effective control by the defense establishment over arms deals by both private companies and individuals went into effect today. Defense Ministry Director General David 'Ivri told our correspondent Roni Daniyel that any application to export arms from Israel would be examined in the initial negotiating stages and once again before the supply begins.

As for the Inner Cabinet's decision on South Africa, Mr 'Ivri said that this decision stipulates that new contracts will not be signed but that those which have been signed will not be canceled so as to enable the military industries to gradually prepare for the new situation.

Shamir To Visit France, Belgium Late April

TA011055 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 1 Apr 87 p 2

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will leave on official visits to France and Belgium at the end of this month. This was reported last night by political sources in Jerusalem.

Shamir was invited to France by Prime Minister Jacques Chirac. He will be in Paris for 3 days during which time he will meet with government leaders, including President Francois Mitterrand.

In Belgium, Shamir will hold political talks with the prime minister, the foreign relations minister, and other figures. Belgium Foreign Relations Minister Leo Tindemans will come to Israel before then as part of a Middle East tour he is conducting. Belgium is currently acting chairman of the EEC.

Ghali Discusses Mideast Peace, Palestinian Issue

TA261610 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, told the IDF Radio newsreel that peace between Israel and Egypt is important, but without solving the Palestinian problem real peace cannot be achieved in the Middle East. Our Arab affairs correspondent Eldad Beck listened to him.

[Begin recording][Beck] The 8th anniversary of the signing of the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt passed in Cairo today with virtually no mention. The Egyptians are involved in the upcoming elections for parliament, and relations with Israel occupy a secondary place in the preliminary propaganda campaign. It should, however, be noted that all opposition parties call for the cancellation of the Camp David accords, and the Muslim Brotherhood organization, which runs on a joint ticket with the Al-'Amal [Socialist Labor Party] and Al-Ahrar [Social Liberal Party] parties, even says it refuses to recognize the existence of the State of Israel.

Against this background, Dr Butrus Ghali wants to tell Israel that peace with Egypt is important indeed, but without solving the Palestinian problem real peace cannot prevail in the region.

[Ghali — in English] The peace with Egypt is important, but don't forget that without a solution to the Palestinian problem, there would be no real peace in the region.

[Beck] You are at the beginning of a very long process, the Egyptian minister says. As long as a solution has not been found to the Palestinian problem, we should continue to negotiate until we achieve a comprehensive, just, and viable peace.

[Ghali — in English] The treaty that was concluded 8 years ago between Egypt and Israel is just a first step, and will have no real significance...

[Beck interrupting] Ghali said that this treaty will become meaningless if additional steps are not made by the Palestinians, Israel, Egypt and the rest of the Arab countries. An international conference, according to Ghali, is a process that may create a new momentum in favor of peace and for resolving the Middle East crisis. Ghali stressed that the Egyptians are not interested in a partial solution but rather in comprehensive peace. The Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs takes a favorable view of Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' recent meetings with Palestinian figures in the territories.

[Ghali — in English] Any contact with the Palestinians is a positive step in favor of peace, because without the Palestinians, without the participation of the Palestinians in the peace process, there would be no comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East. [end recording]

Nir, Iran's Ghorbanifar Meet in Switzerland

TA291129 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 29 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] 'Amiram Nir, the prime minister's antiterrorism adviser and one of the key figures in the Iran affair, met with the Iranian mediator Ghorbanifar in Switzerland about 10 days ago. Nir's meeting was held without prior notice and without the approval of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

About 2 weeks ago Nir asked for permission to go on a private vacation in London, and this was granted by Brigadier General 'Azri'el Nevo, the prime minister's military secretary. From London Nir flew to Switzerland, where he held a secret meeting with Ghorbanifar. The Nir-Ghorbanifar meeting had nothing to do with Nir's current position.

The offices of the prime minister, the foreign minister, and defense minister were surprised by the meeting. Anger was expressed at the prime minister's office over Nir's move.

It has been learned that in a talk with Prime Minister Shamir's assistants, Nir claimed he had not held a meeting with Ghorbanifar but had only seen him by chance at the Swiss airport prior to returning to London. Nir claims that he was staying in Switzerland as part of his vacation. A senior source yesterday confirmed that such a meeting indeed took place.

The Iranian mediator Ghorbanifar announced a few days ago that he intends to disclose everything he knows about the Iranian affair, and that his disclosures will cause concern to several people connected with affair.

Rabin: No Lavi Decision in Cabinet Before May

TA272005 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1815 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin believes that only in May will the Lavi issue be brought to the cabinet for decision. During a joint meeting of the Knesset Finance and Foreign Affairs and Defense Committees, no solution was found to the question of next year's budget for the Lavi, and thus the Lavi project directorate was allocated a budget for only half the coming year.

Our military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky has learned that during the discussion Knesset members Hayim Ramon and Me'ir Shitrit demanded that the Lavi issue be brought to the cabinet for decision. MK Dedi Zucker of the Citizens Rights Movement warned that the Lavi dare not enter the production line before the IDF alternative is discussed by the cabinet.

Sources Clarify Budget Issue

TA291308 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Defense sources have made it clear that the Finance Ministry has approved the annual budget for the Lavi project, not just for 6 months. However, the Finance Ministry demanded, and the Defense Ministry accepted, that orders be submitted not for 12 but for 6 months only, for the time being. It seems that the Finance Ministry believes the fate of the project will be clarified in the coming months. In the wake of the budget cuts, however, it was determined that from now on the value of 1 man-hour on the Lavi project will be $30 only. Although the defense establishment has required clarifications from the Americans on the cost involved in shutting down the Lavi project, it has not yet received them. It is also not clear what will happen to the aid funds if the project is canceled — will the level of aid remain unchanged or will it be reduced?

In this situation of uncertainty the defense establishment is continuing to function and to follow the original Lavi project. It is expected that the military industries will now be required to participate in financing the project. Examination of the Lavi alternatives has ended. An examination is now under way into the IDF alternative concerning the distribution of funds, employment matters, and maintaining the proper technological level. This analysis will shortly be submitted to the defense minister and the cabinet.

ALGERIA

Spanish Foreign Minister Concludes Visit

Madrid: Arms Sales Denied

LD311014 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 0600 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Last night Spanish diplomatic sources denied that our country is going to sell arms to Algeria. A report to this effect was issued by EFE agency when Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez arrived in Algiers. Over to Daniel Peral in Algiers:

[Peral] The main focus of the 1st day of the Spanish Foreign minister's official visit to this country was the presence of ETA members in Algeria and the imbalance of trade with Spain. [passage omitted]

Inocencio Arias, spokesman of the Diplomatic Information Office, denied that the sale of arms to Algeria has been agreed in these talks.

Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez is to change the planned schedule for today, because he has to go to Oran in western Algeria to hold talks with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, talks of a markedly political nature, which will conclude his official visit to this country.

Departure Press Conference

LD010456 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Positive and constructive, opportune and conclusive -- these are the words used by Mr Fernandez-Ordonez and Mr Taleb Ibrahimi to describe the official visit to Algiers of almost 48 hours by the Spanish foreign minister. On his departure from Algiers this afternoon Mr Fernandez-Ordonez replied to the questions of the Algerian press, first of all, on the results of these talks on the bilateral level.

[Begin Fernandez-Ordonez recording] We gave [words indistinct] in the context of consultations of permanent dialogue in the mutual interest [words indistinct] long-term projects. So I consider that the visit was positive and constructive. [end recording]

Then, on the question of the Western Sahara, the Spanish foreign minister gave the position and role of his country, as well as the nature of its relations with the Polisario Front.

[Begin Fernandez-Ordonez recording] Spain has always (?supported) resolution 1641 [as heard], even in the most difficult periods, with the greatest [words indistinct]. Spain [words indistinct] communications with the (?Polisario Front) we have kept up some contacts, and we think we shall keep them going. We consider the (?Polisario Front) a (?part) of the conflict that must be taken into account. We are following very closely all the efforts of the international community, all the efforts of the UN secretary general, and we are ready to do anything that could be useful in putting an end to the situation, which we view as unfinished decolonization. [end recording]

Now, with regard to the role of Spain within the EEC, for an international peace conference on the Middle East, here's Mr Fernandez-Ordonez.

[Begin Fernandez-Ordonez recording] The Spanish Government (?definitely) favors an overall [words indistinct] of the international conference. With regard to the PLO, we are optimistic about future meetings of the PLO (?here) [words indistinct], and we think that this is perhaps the opportunity to reunify the PLO and a further step [words indistinct] a constructive position of the united PLO on the international conference. [end recording]

The Algerian foreign minister, in a statement to the press, particularly the Spanish press, confirmed that these talks had allowed dialogue to reach greater depth, to lay the bases of the long-term, lucid vision that must be at the heart of Algerian-Spanish relations, which are already helped by geographical and historical conditions. Mr Ibrahimi said this visit will definitely give new life to bilateral relations and should have a definite and positive impact on security in the Mediterranean. The solution of the problem of the Western Sahara, the necessary harmony of the Maghreb, and on the Euro-Arab dialogue.

Mr Taleb Ibrahimi also talked about institutionalizing the political dialogue. A calendar for visits and permanent contacts has also been drawn up. As well as the meetings in April and June, respectively, of the scientific and technical commissions and the joint economic commission, a visit by the Algerian foreign minister to Madrid next autumn is planned. It will be followed by a visit to Algiers by the head of the Spanish Government.

The Spanish foreign minister was also received this morning by President Chadli Bendjedid at his residence in Oran.

KUNA: Eritrean Front Delegation Arrives for Visit

LD261311 Kuwait KUNA in English 1009 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Algiers, March 26 (KUNA) — Eritrean Liberation Front leader Abdullah Idris Mohammed and the delegation accompanying him are currently paying a visit to Algeria following a visit to Libya earlier this week.

The Eritrean delegation met with Libyan and Algerian officials and expressed appreciation for understanding which they felt by the Algerian and Libyan revolutions.

The delegation's visit comes within framework of a tour of the Arab Maghreb region to inform officials there of the latest developments in the Eritrean external and internal arenas and to review other mutual issues.

The Eritrean leader is expected to pay a visit to Tunisia within framework of his current tour.

Messaadia Ends 'Fruitful' Visit to Latin America

LD020001 Algiers APS in Arabic 1540 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Algiers, 1 Apr (APS) — The tour made by Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Politburo and head of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee, to Latin America, which finished today with the end of his visit to Mexico, has had very fruitful results. The talks held by the head of the Permanent Secretariat with the parties and governments' officials in the three countries he visited, which were Cuba, Nicaraguan, and Mexico, resulted in very close points of view.

In Cuba, the head of the Permanent Secretariat said: "I am conveying the message of friendship, amity, and cooperation." In fact this message is not addressed solely to the Cuban revolution, but it is addressed to all the people's parties and the governments of the three countries, which are linked to Algeria by excellent relations. These relations, which are the fruit of the effective solidarity of these three states with the Algerian people during their past struggle for independence, were emphasized by President Chadli Bendjedid's visit to this part of the world.

LIBYA

PLO Appeals to Al-Qadhdhafi About Camps Siege

LD012026 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Apr (JANA) — The PLO has appealed to the brother leader of the revolution to exert more effort to lift the Amal-imposed siege of the Shatila Palestinian refugee camp in southern Lebanon.

The PLO cable to the leader said: We appeal to you to move immediately and quickly to exert more effort to lift the siege imposed on the Shatila camp and halt the annihilation campaigns, the forced deaths, and mass massacres which are still being committed for the 5th consecutive month, against our innocent Palestinian people, by the Amal Movement, the 6th Brigade, and those behind them.

The cable added: We are hopeful and confident that your good, great efforts are capable of ending the massacres that are being committed against our children, women, and aged merely because we are Palestinian.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Message From Bourguiba

LD011348 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1150 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Apr (JANA) — The leader of the revolution received a message from President Habib Bourguiba in which he emphasized fraternal Tunisia's solidarity with the Great Jamahiriyah.

President Bourguiba expressed in his message to the leader his concern for maintaining the fraternal relations linking the one Arab people in the two countries and Tunisia's belief in the need to settle the Chadian problem without intervention of foreign powers.

JANA Dismisses Al-Majid Claims of Troops in Sudan

LD271157 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0710 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, 27 Mar (JANA) — Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has repeated what his masters in the CIA vaults asked him to say: to allege that there were Libyan forces in Sudan.

We do not plan to reply to his false allegations here, but rather to draw attention to those concerned by the aloof and haughty manner by which the agent Egyptian regime tries to talk to our brothers in fraternal Sudan, the manner that the severed lackey Numayri had accustomed them to adopt toward Sudan and its people under whatever circumstances.

We, for our part, wish to tell this big mouth 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid that the popular uprising that brought down the severed lackey, Numayri, uprooted him, and then cast him away in the junkpile of history, also founded a government, which alone has the right to talk about matters that concern Sudan, and that those in the vanquished city who appoint themselves custodians have nothing to do with these matters because, as we have said, they are matters that ultimately concern the Sudanese people and their legitimate government, which alone has the right to speak or not to speak.

Furthermore, this agent regime, which is lurking in the vanquished city, has been working day and night to disrupt the close relationship that binds the sons of the one Arab people in Sudan and Libya. The revolutionary spirit stemming from this relationship cannot be harmed by such allegations and falsehoods as those the Al-Barik [Mubarak] regime has been using to drive a wedge in the relations binding the sons of the one people of the two countries — Libya and Sudan.

In conclusion we say to 'Ismat: Tell those who have dictated to you to say what you have said — and you know where to find them — to play a different tune.

JANA Editor Denies Troops in Ounianga-Kebir

LD010954 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Apr (JANA) — Yesterday some news agencies alleged that battles were fought at Ounianga-Kebir in Chad [northeast Chad] in which Libyan forces took part. The JANA local affairs editor has refuted these allegations, saying that there are no Libyan forces in that area, so no Libyan troops could take part in battles there.

He added that the talk about these battles either came from the imagination of the Ndjamena gang's radio, Paris, and Washington media, or these battles actually took place between the forces of the Chadian National Unity Government and the forces of the lackey Habre.

The editor noted that it would have been more appropriate for the trumpets which spread these allegations yesterday to move to Paris or Washington for their broadcasts, rather than spread their numerous lies from an Arab country or an African state.

MOROCCO

Turkey's Evren, Hassan Speak at Dinner 31 Mar

TA010929 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 0430 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] President Kenan Evren said that Turkey's foreign policy is based on the principles of maintaining good relations with all countries, particularly its neighbors, and of resolving conflicts through peaceful methods and dialogues. He was speaking at a dinner given in his honor by King Hassan II of Morocco in Rabat last night.

In his speech the president pointed out that besides having close bilateral relations, Turkey and Morocco cooperate well and show solidarity at the Islamic conferences and other international forums. He expressed the belief that the deep-rooted ideals shared by the two countries and the similarities in their approach to regional and international problems will play an important role in revitalizing the relations and enriching their cooperation. He said: One of the basic principles of Turkey's foreign policy is to develop its relations and fields of cooperation with the Islamic countries. Consequently, strengthened by its historical, cultural, and moral ties with the Arab and Muslim countries, Turkey tries to further enrich its existing cooperation with these countries from all aspects. On the other hand, Turkey is part of the Western world with which it shares common values. Our relations with the Western countries have become institutionalized in a process that has developed since the establishment of the Turkish Republic and within the framework of various Western organizations.

Later in his speech, President Evren said he wished to mention certain issues which closely concern the Arab and Muslim countries. He said: I must take this opportunity to point out that most existing international conflicts are between Islamic countries, while now more than ever, we need unity and solidarity among ourselves. The international problems, especially the conflicts in the Middle East, are still at a critical stage. As a regional country, Turkey is closely following the events in the Middle East, which are a source of great concern for all of us, and regrets the fact that peace and stability cannot be restored despite all efforts. There is no doubt that if the Arab and Islamic countries act in closer unity and solidarity among themselves, this would play an important role in eliminating the instability in the region.

President Evren reiterated that Turkey believes that the Palestinian problem lies at the core of the Middle East conflict. He pointed out that a just and lasting peace can be established in the region only if the legitimate rights of the Palestinians are recognized and if Israel withdraws from the occupied territories, including Jerusalem.

On the Iran-Iraq war, the president said that Turkey has been actively involved in the efforts to resolve the conflict since the confrontation began.

On the situation in Lebanon, the president said that it is a source of deep concern and that Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity must be protected.

President Kenan Evren pointed out that the industrialized countries are making new achievements in every field, adding: I would like to point out that we are concerned because the developing countries must make efforts to overcome certain basic problems. The protectionist measures taken by the industrialized countries — especially those who have a free market economy — under various pretexts, but which exacerbate the economic problems of the developing countries, increase our concern. In a world where countries are becoming increasingly interdependent, there is no doubt that the speedy solution of such problems will not only contribute to economic development but to peace and stability as well.

The president said that Turkey's foreign policy is based on the principles of maintaining good relations with all countries, particularly its neighbors, and of resolivng conflicts through peaceful methods and dialogues. He stressed that certain other countries unfortunately do not share this attitude, adding: For example, our neighbor Bulgaria is continuing to pursue its policy of oppression and forceful assimilation against the Muslim Turkish minority living there. Turkey prefers to solve this serious problem through a dialogue. However, the problem has not yet been resolved,because Bulgaria never agreed to a dialogue. The interest to be shown by the world and Muslim public in the future of these innocent people carries great importance.

President Evren stated that Turkey declared several times that the Turkish-Greek problems can be resolved through a dialogue based on the principles of justice and equity. He added that Turkey retains the hope that it might receive a positive reply to its calls for a dialogue.

Recalling that the Cyprus problem has not been resolved legally, the president said: We believe that the only way in which the Greek Cypriots can be persuaded to reach an agreement is to treat the Turkish Cypriots equally, and an important duty awaits the Islamic countries — that of developing their cooperation with the Turkish Cypriots.

In his speech, King Hassan II pointed out that the two countries are situated in the passageways of the eastern and western Mediterranean. He noted that both countries exist under difficult conditions, adding: Islamic solidarity and Mediterranean (?unity) is important and lasting.

The king said that Turkey achieved significant developments in the economic and social fields, adding that Morocco admires Turkey's achievements in irrigation. He said that while his country tries to build dams of 1 to 2 billion cubic meters, Turkey's capacity is above that.

The king also expressed the belief that President Evren's visit will constitute an important event in the history of the two countries.

King Hassan II then saw President Evren off with a ceremony from the palace where the dinner took place. After the national anthems of the two countries were played, President Evren inspected the honor guard. He will go to Fes today where he will visit historical and tourist sites, and will return to Turkey on Thursday.

SUDAN

Al-Qadhdhafi Telephones; 2 Libyan Envoys Visit

JN011548 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Apr (SUNA) — At noon today State Council Chairman Ahmad 'Ali al-Mirghani received a telephone call from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. The conversation dealt with bilateral relations as well as Sudanese mediation efforts to resolve the conflict between the Libyan Jamahiriyah and Chad.

On another level, Al-Mirghani received here today Zaghlul al-Sanusi and Sa'ud Ballut, two envoys of the Libyan leadership to Khartoum, in the presence of Dr 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din, State Council member, and the charge d'affaires of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Khartoum.

In a press statement following his meeting with Al-Mirghani, Khalifah al-Haddad, charge d'affaires of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Khartoum, said his talks with the State council chairman dealt with political and economic issues as well as the issue of developing and cementing fraternal bilateral relations. He said the brethren in Libya reiterate that Sudanese-Libyan relations are above all considerations and are strong and fraternal.

The Libyan charge d'affaires said that Sudanese officials conveyed to them that Sudan is still persistent and serious in its efforts to bring about peace and accord among the brethren in Chad. He emphasized this is the same objective pursued by the Libyan Jamahiriyah -- bringing peace to the Chadian brethren.

The meeting was attended by Ahmad Sa'd, member of the good offices committee formed following the launching of the Sudanese initiative to bring about peace in Chad, and Salih al-Durufi, director general of the Libyan Arab-Sudanese Corporation.

The Libyan charge d'affaires indicated that Jum'ah al-Fazzani, secretary of the People's Committee of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Khartoum, will arrive in Khartoum tomorrow to resume his duties after recovering from his illness.

Libyan Troops in Darfur Begin Withdrawal 31 Mar

JN021100 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1028 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] Khartoum, 2 Apr (SUNA) — The Libyan troops stationed in Darfur began to withdraw the day before yesterday in full coordination with the Sudanese Armed Forces following the agreement reached by Sudanese and Libyan leaders.

This was confirmed today by *Al-Siyasah*, which published a statement by 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din, member of Sudan's State Council and official in charge of African affairs in the council, in which he emphasized Sudan's complete faith in peaceful and political solutions to all national problems and in the policy of positive nonalignment that governs its relations with all states.

Taj al-Din expressed his firm conviction that Sudan's efforts to contain and resolve the dispute between Libyan and Chad will be successful as all the opportunities for a political solution to the conflict exist. He emphasized that Sudan will not forfeit its national security, and that its armed forces are capable of defending its border. He also emphasized that Sudan believes in maintaining good-neighborly relations with its neighbors and in not interfering in the internal affairs of other states and will not agree to any state interfering in Sudan's internal affairs.

A Sudanese delegation left yesterday for Tripoli and Ndjamena with messages from Prime Minister al-Sadiq al- Mahdi to Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Chadian President Hissein Habre. The messages are within the framework of Sudan's efforts to establish peace and security in Chad. Another Sudanese delegation is scheduled to leave for Algeria today with a similar message for President Chadli Bendjedid on the efforts to contain the problem in Chad. The delegation will also take part in the efforts to reconcile the Chadian factions as part of the coordination efforts with Algeria to resolve the problem.

'Outlaw' Camp Destroyed Near Ethiopian Border

EA260631 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] An official source in the People's Armed Forces General Command says that the Al-Dajah outlaw camp, which is 300 km south of Al-Damazin, has been destroyed. The camp, which consisted of three subsidiary camps, was captured after zealous and fierce fighting. The main camp was commanded by the rebel, Carbino. During the battle a large number of outlaws were killed and a largequantity of arms and ammunition were captured. Six trucks, including [word indistinct] truck and truck No 106 were also destroyed. Radio sets, equipment, medicine, and many military uniforms were seized. Two members of the Armed Forces were martyred and six others wounded.

This camp was considered to be one of the main outlaw camps in the area. It was established recently with the aim of shifting operations northward, to damage agricultural projects in the southern Al-Damazin area and win over the citizens of the region. The camp is located about 10 km from Jekaw. The capture of the fortified Al-Dajah camp is regarded as a great success for the Armed Forces. Al-Dajah camp is close to the Ethiopian border.

Military Source Says 321 'Outlaws' Killed 25 Mar

JN271231 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Mar (SUNA) — The Armed Forces killed 321 outlaws in a battle they fought against them the day before yesterday. The outlaws have been shelling and besieging Sudanese cities near the border with Libya for more than 2 months. This was announced by a responsible source in the People's Armed Forces General Command today who added that the headquarters of the outlaws in the (Al-Zink) area was destroyed and that the commander of the outlaw force of the rank of lieutenant colonel was among those killed.

The source said 13 soldiers of the Armed Forces were martyred and 13 others were wounded and 5 were martyred and 38 were wounded of the friendly Anya Nya II forces that participated with the Armed Forces in this battle. The source added that 23 Kalashnikov rifles and some ammunition were captured and that the Armed Forces continue to mop up the area.

SPLA Leader Killed in Battle in Daga Area

JN301559 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Mar (SUNA) — An official spokesman for the People's Armed Forces has announced that Lieutenant Colonel John Kolong, one of the prominent military and political leaders of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement and the Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA], was killed during the Khawr Misharr battle in the Daga area fought between the People's Armed Forces and the Garang movement.

The spokesman added that Colonel William Nyun was seriously wounded in the Joku area when the SPLA tried to recapture the Juko camp. The spokesman added that reports said the SPLA officer died after being evacuated from the battlefield.

Sudanese Armed Forces Destroy 'Outlaw' Camps

JN311503 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1418 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 31 Mar (SUNA) — The official spokesman of the People's Armed Forces has announced that the Armed Forces have destroyed a great number of the outlaws' camps in the Joku, Daga, and (Al-Maban) areas, inflicted heavy losses on the outlaws' remnants, and (?seized) 650 Kalashnikov rifles, a great quantity of mines, and [word indistinct] vehicles and jeeps. The spokesman said the Armed Forces continue to score victories by carrying out intensive activities in the area and chasing the outlaws' remnants.

Government Forces Suffer 'Devastating Defeat'

EA272252 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's tribal militia force in upper Nile administrative area have suffered yet another devastating defeat by SPLA forces. According to Radio SPLA correspondents based in central south Sudan zonal command, SPLA forces of Moon Battalion under the command of Captain (Moses Otot) fought one of the fierce battles with Sadiq's militia at Lau Nuer recently and captured 39 of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's militiamen, including their commander with the rank of captain with all his bodyguards.

The names of the captain and his bodyguards have not been made available yet. Correspondents say that a total number of 41 rifles of different types have been captured, including a large amount of ammunition.

SPLA Forces Launch 'Fierce Attack' on Mayom

EA272329 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Excerpt] An SPLA force made up of units from Tiger, Timsah [Crocodile], Oil and Wolf Battalions launched a fierce attack on the town of Mayom in Western Upper Nile administrative area on 8 March 1987. Thirty enemy soldiers were killed and 50 others injured in the attack, which started after midnight and lasted till dawn. Our correspondent says that most of the houses in Mayom were burned down and several of the enemy trenches completely destroyed. An ammunition dump and a food store were also demolished.

Heavy casualties were also sustained by elements of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's militia that participated in the fighting alongside Khartoum government troops. Some of the documents belonging to Matip Nhial, the commander of Al-Sadiq's militia forces in Western Upper Nile, were also saved. [passage omitted]

SPLA Radio Says Forces Repel Attack 29 Mar

EA311805 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] SPLA forces operating under the overall command of Lieutenant Colonel Carabino Kuany Bol, deputy chairman and deputy Commander in Chief of SPLM-SPLA, and the direct combat command of Captain (Jot Bileu) frustrated an enemy attempt to capture Dajo [al-Dajah, upper Nile region] on the night of 29 March 1987. After heavy fighting, enemy forces were repulsed before reaching Dajo, and remnants of the enemy are now being pursued towards Damazin. Dajo, which has never fallen into the hands of Khartoum forces as alleged over radio Omdurman, remains fully under SPLA control.

Col Dr John Garang de Mabior, the chairman and commander in chief of SPLM-SPLA, has warmly congratulated the deputy commander in chief and all SPLA forces under his command for having beaten back the enemy attack on Dajo.

SPLA Forces Report 20 Mar Bahr al-Ghazal Clash

EA010936 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Three of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's militiamen have been killed and five others injured in a clash with SPLA forces on 20 March 1987 between Mading Achung and (Akot Chok) in northern Bahr al-Ghazal. Radio SPLA correspondent says that the engagement occurred as an SPLA retaliatory measure against the looting and atrocities being committed against the civilian population by Al-Sadiq's militia after having been denied access to the river Lol.

SPLA Force Kills 45 Militiamen 23-24 Mar

EA012255 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Excerpt] An SPLA force comprising units from Abu Shawk, Sobat, and the Nuba Mountains task force clashed with Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's militia between Malakal and Akobo on 23d and 24th respectively. The enemy force was on its way from Malakal to Akobo when it was intercepted, and fighting broke out leading to the death of 45 enemy militiamen. [passage omitted]

WESTERN SAHARA

Saharan Ministry: 200 Moroccans Killed 26 Mar

LD280000 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] A communique issued by the Saharan Information Ministry said yesterday that the Saharan People's Liberation Army forces destroyed more than 200 Moroccan soldiers deployed behind the sixth wall and a great amount of artillery following the explosion of antitank and antipersonnel mines.

The same source stated that most of these explosions took place on 26 March in the regions of (El Mesmar), (Gourit Ennar), (Bouhana), (Gouirat Tnoubach) and particularly of (Timazouine) where 11 antitank mines exploded, causing significant casualties among the ranks of the invading Moroccan forces.

ETHIOPIA

Border Talks With Somalia Open in Addis Ababa

Somali Delegation Arrives 31 Mar

EA311240 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0930 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] The third meeting of the Ethiopia-Somali ad hoc joint committee will open at the Giyon Hotel [in Addis Ababa] tomorrow. The committee was formed a year and a half ago when Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, PMAC chairman, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, and Somali leader President Siad Barre met in Djibouti to examine the differences between the two countries and suggest solutions.

This committee held its first meeting in Addis Ababa in April 1986. A Somali delegation led by Foreign Minister Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre has arrived in Addis Ababa to attend the third session. Its members were welcomed at Bole International Airport by Comrade Berhanu Bayeh, member of the WPE Central Committee Politburo and foreign minister.

Meeting Begins 1 April

EA011056 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0930 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] The third meeting of the ad hoc joint committee of ministers from Ethiopia and Somalia, which is trying to resolve the differences between the two countries, opened at the Giyon Hotel today. The Ethiopian delegation is led by Comrade Berhanu Bayeh, member of the WPE Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs. The Somalis are led by their foreign minister, Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre.

In his speech at the start of the meeting, Comrade Berhanu Bayeh said revolutionary Ethiopia is working for continental peace based on mutual cooperation and will make every possible effort in this area.

Bayeh Addresses Meeting

EA012036 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Our reporter, Darius Modi, has followed the opening ceremony of the third meeting of the ad hoc joint committee of ministers from Ethiopia and Somalia. In his opening speech, Comrade Berhanu Bayeh noted that this round of talks would be another attempt by the ad hoc committee to discharge the responsibilities vested in it by the leaders of the two countries at the end of their extensive talks in Djibouti last year. He went on to describe the earlier talks in Addis Ababa and Mogadishu, saying the two ad hoc joint ministerial committee meetings held consecutively in our capitals had shown that the committee was in no position to implement the clear directives laid down for it. He said: I need not say here why that was not possible. The differences encountered by our two sides on the agenda served to obstruct our work, which is reason enough. We were puzzled by the differences that cropped up between us on the contents of our agenda. I say this because we had reached a clear understanding on the activities of the committee when our leaders created it. The directive issued by our two leaders in Djibouti was unequivocal.

Accordingly, the committee was given the responsibility of examining and defining the basic differences between our two states. In this respect, what we are saying is that the Somali side should not have (?emphasized) the only point the Ethiopian side had included on the agenda.

We hope that during our present meeting, we will approach the aims of the Djibouti meeting. We should not fail to take advantage of the opportunity we have at hand. We must make every possible effort to avoid deadlock in our talks.

Our side is prepared to do its best to bring about lasting peace and cooperation in our region. Our loyalty to the principles of the United Nations and OAU, which call for noninterference in internal affairs, the inviolability of nations and respect for national dignity and territorial integrity, is unquestionable. Finally, we are convinced that we can forge ahead toward lasting peace, stability, and tangible cooperation by applying the necessary foresight and political zeal, and by solving the differences that have eroded relations between us.

Let us not forget our responsibility for our people, who have long suffered from poverty, destruction, and agony. Let us make them victorious over backwardness and create conditions under which they will be able to live in peace and cooperate for their own good.

After a speech by Dr Jama Barre, the meeting continued in camera.

2d Round of Talks Held 2 Apr

EA021024 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] Ministers from Ethiopia and Somalia taking part in the third meeting of their ad hoc joint committee held a second round of talks today. Revolutionary Ethiopia's delegation is led by Comrade Berhanu Bayeh, member of the WPE Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs, while the Somali group is headed by Foreign Minister Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre.

Revolutionary Ethiopia's agenda [preceding word in English] included a proposal on respect for borders, which was submitted at yesterday's meeting. As of today, the proposal has yet to be accepted by the Somalis. Discussions are continuing so that the committee can reexamine the issue and reach agreement. It has been stated that if Ethiopia's proposal is accepted, the Ethiopian delegation will have no difficulty agreeing to the five points presented by Somalia.

Previous meetings of the committee were held in Addis Ababa and Mogadishu.

GDR Delegation Meets Mengistu; Returns Home

EA012342 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Excerpt] An SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] delegation led by Comrade Kurt Seibt, chairman of the the party's Audit Commission, returned home today at the end of a 1-week tour of revolutionary Ethiopia. Before its departure, the delegation was received by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, PMAC chairman and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces. Asefa Seyoum has sent the following report from the WPE Central Committee office:

[Seyoum] Today Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, PMAC chairman and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, met and held talks with Comrade Kurt Seibt, chairman of the SED Audit Commission. At a ceremony in the office of the WPE Central Committee secretary general this afternoon, Comrade Kurt Seibt told our comrade revolutionary leader that the SED delegation he led had fruitful talks with senior party officials in Ethiopia. He noted that he was fully briefed on the speedy processes the Ethiopian revolution has gone through and was highly impressed by the directives and activities of the WPE. The comrade secretary general explained the relations and friendship between the parties of the two friendly countries to Comrade Seibt. [passage omitted]

'Part Three' of Mengistu Report to WPE Plenum

EA261956 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1727 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Part three of speech by Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, at the sixth plenary meeting of the WPE Central Committee in Addis Ababa on 23 March — recorded]

[Excerpts] In addition to various accomplishments which protect the interests of the majority of the working people and create favorable conditions for our general social development, our present plans for the establishment of the republic making the people direct owners of power is itself a clear example. Although we can say that we are making progress in development, we cannot say that we are [words indistinct]. We appreciate that there are various problems ahead of us which require solutions. To continue our efforts to build a new society successfully, we appreciate that there are various issues which require our attention in handling and solving contradictions. The main ones are:

To further strengthen the working of higher structures;

To handle correctly various modes of production in line with our stage of development and organize these so that they contribute to the construction of socialism;

To mobilize correctly the private and cooperative activities of various sections of our society, that is, the workers, peasants, urban, and rural workers; and coordinate the efforts of all working people to achieve the necessary results for the construction of socialism; and

To make great efforts to propagate the true nature of our revolution internationally and develop cooperation based on equality and mutual benefit.

In order to achieve the success of the objective of social development for which our party stands, we must be prepared properly to utilize in particular the higher legal framework which will be created with the establishment of the republic. To ensure its competence for the responsibility of leadership that awaits it, our party has no alternative but to grow in size by bringing together combatant members and developing the level of its political awareness and political culture. As the implementation of our national economic policies and programs are a manifestation of the practical nature of our objectives and guarantees for our development, we must ensure that the results hoped for in this regard are achieved.

For this to happen, we have to push ahead with our efforts by giving proper attention to the general needs of the working people, by taking into consideration the situation of various sections of society and by assessing the international political and economic situations. Because our society lived in backwardness for years we must believe that by ensuring that the people have correct leadership in terms of class composition, we will guarantee from now on that we will achieve our goal. When the basic factors for correct political leadership are taken into account, the fundamental issue which should never be ignored is our understanding of the scientific laws of social development.

If we appreciate this, have a proper plan for building socialism, and achieve practical participation in addition to our efforts to solve the problems of our society, then we are sure to reach our objectives.

Dear comrades, since the building of the new society demands conscious and trained manpower, it is essential to attend to education in order to ensure that the necessary conditions are created. We must formulate a strategy to enable education to make the necessary contribution to the growth of the productive forces and, in particular, to coordinate training with our national development plans and organize citizens in practical and research work at various levels according to requirements. This will enable the country to produce its own scholars at all levels and in all professions gradually, within a short space of time, and to rid the country of dependence on foreign languages for education and training.

When we say that education plays a decisive role in enabling the working people to acquire knowledge and become a reliable force for building socialism, it should not be forgotten that literacy is the first step. In general, although everyone knows that the results we have achieved both in formal education and literacy education are extensive and noteworthy, the task ahead of us does not permit us to relax. In particular, since the primary task is the extension of literacy to all people and controlling the spread of illiteracy, our efforts should not be relaxed but strengthened. I repeat in particular, since the extension of literacy to all the people and controlling the spread of illiteracy is the primary task, our efforts should not be relaxed but must continue even stronger.

Hence, let us all understand that it is the primary national obligation of all citizens to cooperate, give the required assistance, and participate actively. One of the main areas on which we will focus is the creation of a culture of spiritual preparedness and knowledge necessary for the construction of the new social order. The results achieved in this sphere, in particular regarding inspiring the workers to participate, are significant.

However, the role played by various cultural spheres as vanguards utilizing suitable conditions has not met our expectations. The attraction of foreign cultures to our youth, particularly in the urban areas, is proof our efforts are insufficient. In our society, where creative work has not yet been initiated, it is not a healthy sign that the results achieved so far have not only been limited, but shallow. Although from time to time we get results that are exemplary and up to standard, half of the results achieved cannot be highly regarded in terms of content or form. [passage omitted]

There are many examples of work in the fine arts that are part of our heritage. We can use them to develop the fine arts. Using these as a foundation, we should struggle against conservatism and foreign cultural decadence and domination. This requires far-sightedness and open-mindedness to appreciate and portray the truth. Hence our party is expected to give correct guidance in the cultural sphere to achieve additional results. We believe that creativity should be encouraged for those in the fine arts. This (?community) should not sit back expectantly, but should coordinate its efforts and work as a vanguard, that is, that section of society employed in the field of fine arts. They should always receive the support of the government and society. Conditions exist for us to achieve the desired results if appropriate efforts are made. Our culture is measured in terms of social development and social consciousness based on the forces of production. The effect of our backwardness on the cultural sphere cannot be denied.

Nevertheless, we must halt the destructive tendency to adulterate the culture of this country, a country renowned throughout the world for its antiquity, its ancient civilization, its struggle for freedom, its historic artifacts, its cultural wealth, and its present revolutionary nature, so that the people do not totally forget their identity. [passage omitted]

Socialist and other developing countries understand that culture is a product of the political system, the class system, and the system of education, and is an ideology in itself. And although we appreciate its national impact, especially its psychological impact on children and youths, understand its potential for degradation and the moral depravity of social life, and oppose cultural invasion, we are still seen to be holding our doors open and inviting foreign culture into our land.

We see this mainly in literature, movies, video tapes, et cetera. If any of us think that countries in the capitalist world who are materially developed have reached the level we have or are way ahead of us and sophisticated, they are making a serious mistake. Our party has decided to set up its own research, study, and training institution in order to solve this problem systematically and enhance our regulations. Until then, we call on relevant offices, our intelligentsia, and comrades employed in this sphere to assess the situation.

It is a fact that the mass media play a major role in increasing the peoples' level of knowledge. In view of the number of listeners, viewers, and readers the media can reach in a short time, they are expected to strive constantly. The contribution they have made so far has won praise from all those in this field. It is known that they require assistance in some fields. However, they are expected to make all possible efforts to maintain the quality and appeal of their productions.

Ideological work requires continuous effort. It is the work and responsibility of the party in particular. Ideological competence, sincerity of purpose, and professional knowledge based on understanding is crucial to the establishment of a new society based on efficiency and the prosperity of all. Hence, we should individually and jointly struggle for this.

Comrades, coordinated guidance is essential for the success of the struggle we have embarked upon in all spheres and for the construction of a new society. Therefore, it is essential to ensure that the organizational ability of our party, which has a historic responsibility, grows steadily. The party's strength is based on the efforts of its members. Hence, close follow-up is required to ensure that care has been taken in all activities starting with prerecruitment preparations. Therefore, the WPE will have to rally resilient strugglers who serve as good examples in terms of ideological maturity, employment, and their social and individual lives, and who are prepared to promote its aims throughout their lives.

It is necessary to properly utilize and strengthen discussion clubs, legal institutions, and similar forums of preparation in order to produce members of quality. These forums enable individuals to become more familiar with the goals of the revolution and its basic policies and prepare them for more active participation in production. Hence, the forums play a major role in ensuring that our party has capable members. The ability of members is not measured by one assessment alone, but is a continuous process that is amended by the party according to the situation. Quality and depth are essential in determining the outcome of continuous efforts. Hence, the importance of alloting a considerable amount of time and placing particular emphasis on prerecruitment preparations should not be overlooked.

Study clubs are the main forums through which the final preparation of party candidates, elected for their active participation in mass organizations, discussion clubs, and other preparatory forums, will be completed. The forums enable individuals to acquire an understanding of the basic theories of Marxism-Leninism, the regulations and directives of our party program, and other basic issues. In addition, the forums closely follow up and develop the candidates' sincerity of purpose, ethical strength, knowledge, and professional capability. Hence, the necessary directives have been prepared to ensure that the forums are properly organized and follow the correct method of study in order to facilitate the smooth running of their activities. The directives will be enhanced and implemented after they have been enriched by statistics and suggestions received from the various sectors.

Preparations to produce capable members and the process of recruitment are the daily tasks of Marxist-Leninist parties and require great care. This must therefore be carried out systematically. The plan for recruiting members will follow and facilitate the implementation of our party's regulations. In addition, the plan will create suitable conditions for follow-up by relating the objective situation of all members to the desired general result. The achievement of more encouraging results in all areas since the introduction of the recruitment plan, which is prepared annually, affirms this. [passage omitted]

As a result of efforts made so far, 36.7 percent of the annual plan has been accomplished. According to statistics, the major part of the work, that is, 63.3 percent, should be accomplished during the remaining period. In addition to the original plan, it has become necessary to recruit those who have been members of study clubs for a long time, and unless efforts in this respect are strengthened, the plan for the year cannot be accomplished. From the point of view of the various urgent and timely tasks ahead of us, it is not difficult to appreciate what enormous efforts are needed to overcome the shortcomings in this field by maintaining quality.

The other main issues which should not be ignored and must be given attention in recruiting members is to ensure that the women in particular are from all sections of the working people. In addition, it should not be forgotten that the sex and social composition of members must be balanced and we must make the necessary efforts to recruit able professionals from various fields. Comrades, it is clear that the benefit of strengthening our party is to produce reliable leadership which will enable the achievement of the new system through coordinating the efforts of its political organs. Although the organs of the political system have common objectives, each of them has [words indistinct] share of the task. In construction work, one cannot be replaced by another, therefore the organs of the system at various levels should accomplish their tasks while supporting each other.

However, as we are seeing in some areas, discussions and agreements between parts of the system should not hinder each part from successfully accomplishing the work for which it is responsible. Organs of the political system are directly accountable from the point of view of their ability to do their jobs. Discussions and agreements are meant only to create favorable conditions to expedite the progress of the revolution by coordinating the work of each organ with the others and not to reduce any organ's responsibility or accountability for its particular work. Although the cooperation and individual responsibilities of the system's organs are fundamental to the success of our construction efforts, the party plays a decisive role in providing centralized leadership for all and coordinating all efforts. The practical achievement of the party's leadership role demands the fulfilment of two basic requirements. On one hand, the organs of our party must be competent to provide leadership, and on the other, government and mass organizations must be ready to accept the leadership of the party and implement its policies fully. This is not to deprive them of their independence, but is a necessity which should be fulfilled to cement their links with the party. Although the activities of government and mass organizations at various level appear to be different in terms of detail, all are part of the party's programs and policies.

As has been said repeatedly, and as I have also mentioned earlier, the close relations and cooperation which should exist among the organs of the political system cannot be expected to come out of thin air. They are the result of their unity of purpose. Each organ possesses an area of responsibility and authority for implementation but is not an independent authority. For this reason, it should be properly understood that relations among the organs are based on the division of labor. It should be clear that between the organs of the political system, there is only division of labor and not division of authority. I repeat, for this reason it should be properly understood that relations among them are based on the division of labor. It should be clear that between the organs of the political system there is only division of labor and not division of authority.

Although the party has primary responsibility for correct relations among the organs of the political system, the required results cannot be achieved without the contribution of the other organs of the system. For this reason, all of them must struggle for the success of their common objectives by overcoming professional and ideological shortcomings in certain areas. The party's leadership role and the relations between organs of the political system can be seen in practical terms at the grassroots level. The contribution of each organ's efforts to the others and the support it needs from others to carry out its responsibilities can only be seen clearly at this level.

Since this is the level at which various policies and directives are implemented to mobilize resources and manpower, special attention should be given to healthy relations between the organs. It is only when all are cooperating to carry out their individual responsibilities that the scientific method of work can be applied and the desired results achieved. Evaluation of leadership qualities and achievements at any level should be from the point of view of ability to coordinate everyone's effort. For this reason, all leaders should be ready to participate.

Party and primary organizations of mass organizations should prepare for fruitful participation. In particular, since the party's leadership role will be manifested in practical terms at this level, all necessary steps to improve the competence of primary organizations should be taken. Our primary organizations, which are instrumental to the practical leadership role of the WPE, are a base for the growth and strength of the party, and it should be the continuous task of the party to ensure that they are competent to carry out the responsibilities entrusted to them.

Consequently, area organs at various levels bear a very heavy responsibility. Organs of our party have been formed in many districts and provinces to coordinate the efforts of our primary organizations and give the necessary political leadership for activities at various levels. In line with the desire to expand WPE structures, the task ahead of us in this regard should not be underestimated.

However, our present capabilities do not permit us to move forward as we would have wished. In addition, it was believed proper to work in line with the future administrative division of the republic and the formation of organs has stopped to some extent. Activities being carried out in settlement areas and districts and provinces chosen for [word indistinct] productivity were given special attention by our party from the point of view of their contribution to solving our urgent problems and to the strength and progress of our revolution. The successful establishment of organs in these areas should be given special consideration. Since the leadership role of our party is crucial to the success of activities in these areas, it is correct and proper to give special attention to the formation of organs.

Another issue which we should consider in connection with this is the [word indistinct] we carry out in the villages we establish. To attain our goals in establishing villages, continuous efforts must be made to organize peasants who are not organized and strengthen those who are. By properly using the favorable conditions created by villagization of peasants, the scope of peasant participation must be expanded to strengthen the peasant association. As can clearly be seen from the objectives of villagization, it is not an end in itself but seeks to create the necessary material and [word indistinct] conditions to expedite rural development. This is not something which can be completed in the same time span as villagization.

It demands continuous political work. Therefore, it demands continuous effort. It very much demands the close attention of party organs in various areas. Primary organizations for all these must be increased by recruiting and organizing members from among the peasants.

Comrades, from the second regular meeting of our Central Committee onwards, there was never a time when WPE cadre policy and related directives were not mentioned. It should be recalled that it was stated during our last meeting that due to the attention given to the issue, the policies and directives for implementation should be prepared by taking into account the experiences of socialist countries and similar parties, bearing in mind the objective reality of our country, ensuring the quality required, and seeing to their gradual implementation.

At various meetings, organs of the party concerned made statements to enhance the understanding of guidelines regarding this and methods of work. Recruitment, training, deployment, assessment, promotion, transfer, and care of cadres should now be considered. In addition to directives that all information helpful to the policy must be sent to the center and all necessary preparations be made, extensive discussions also took place. The implementation of cadre policy and related directives is expected to take place at a time when the republic is formed and the political system is close to achieving its objectives. We have also come across issues which should be reviewed concerning key workplaces.

In addition, we have taken every care to give cadre policy the attention it deserves by linking it with various other complex pressing issues. The issues of collective leadership, strengthening interparty democracy, [words indistinct] revolutionary ethics based on readiness for sacrifice, and not being too eager to taste the fruits of victory and the like are requirements for our cadre policy, and they will give it a firm base when implemented. For this reason, we have to be prepared to make the successful contribution expected of us in implementing the cadre policy and implementing directives based on it. The main guarantee for this policy is implementation based on willingness, and in order to believe in this fully, we have to develop our understanding.

As the implementation of party policy obliges us to change many modes of operation, we have to prepare ourselves to make the necessary changes in our thinking and tendencies. In addition to the spiritual readiness of members, the implementation of the cadre policy requires the fulfilment of all necessary conditions. Thus, we must not expect immediate solutions to all problems in areas wherecadres are present as soon as the policy is implemented. The correct preparation and deployment of cadres is given prominence in the policy and related directives as well as promoting the productive nature of activities embarked upon in all sectors so as to fulfill the cadres' wishes.

Although the necessary efforts have been made to enhance the understanding of our cadres regarding work which can be done to promote the leadership role of the WPE, the situation in some areas is disappointing and embarrassing. The party deploys its vanguard cadres in key positions in line with their feelings for the working people and in accordance with their readiness to make the necessary sacrifices in the implementation of the party line and directives. In short, they are deployed in the belief that they should work in line with the party spirit, but, it should be made clear, not as a reward for work they have done at some time in the past. If the party spirit prevails only at party meetings, as in some areas, then this shows that our understanding has still not reached the required level. Overlooking violations of party directives in state institutions by high-ranking and active members of the WPE is totally unacceptable.

While in some areas we see healthy relations between the party, government, and mass (?organizations) based on a clear understanding of the unity of purpose and high regard given to our party, in other areas we see that our basic organizations are experiencing problems such that they cannot even [word indistinct] ordinary party instructions. Therefore, erroneous modes of operation that serve as obstacles to the leadership role of our party and that reduce it should be corrected immediately. A lack of understanding can no longer serve as an excuse for these problems and can no longer be presented at the discussion forum. Therefore, it is necessary for organs of the political system to use their unity of purpose as a basis to reassess, detail, and enhance directives issued to further consolidate the party's leadership role in institutions where basic WPE organizations exist.

One of the essential conditions for the execution of party directives in society is the establishment of smooth relations with other parts of the political system. Coordinating internal functions of members and organs in particular is crucial. The efforts of members to execute directives correctly and on time is one way in which they affirm their respect and adherence to the party program, regulations, and directives so as to ensure healthy interparty life and the facilitation of our organizations' day-to-day activities. The timely and correct implementation of directives depends on coordinating work between the organs issuing and receiving directives.

Hence, in order to make it possible to carry out the desired volume and type of work, it is necessary for us to build on the experience gained so far and give it depth. The ongoing struggle to make members more committed to the ideology we follow and to further develop their revolutionary zeal, in order to emancipate them totallyfrom the petit bourgeois characteristics of individualism and vaccilation has to be strengthened further.

We cannot afford to be lax, as the implementation of collective leadership, which is our party's main leadership principle, and the shouldering of individual responsibility, are still not up to standard. This is evident because frank and exhaustive discussions understood by party organs at all levels have not been held on issues presented for joint discussion. It has been said that this is because a system under which organs can be collectively accountable or members individually accountable has not been devised. The weakness concerning the inability to shoulder joint and individual responsibility contradicts the basic aim of our party and in time will have disastrous consequences. It should therefore be corrected immediately. Another issue that should not pass without mention at this juncture is the tendency in government to give positions and sometimes to promote individuals who have been found to have committed acts harmful to the revolution, country, and people, and who have been removed from the party.

The party has no different aims and the measures taken by the party over its members should be fully respected since these are taken after careful study in order to safeguard the interests of the working people. If this is not done, if an individual who has committed deeds harmful to the revolution in one organ of the political system is treated mildly in another organ of the political system, the efforts are worthless. In short, the party is cleaning itself but soiling the people.

We do not need revolutionaries who pay lip service to our revolution and our motherland, but revolutionaries who stand the test in practical deeds. We have mentioned this several times before. What our party seeks is those selected revolutionaries who are determined to be improved alongside their compatriots, progress alongside their country, are ready for the struggle for work, production, and the necessary sacrifice and those citizens who stand firm and face reality in times of hardship. It is our obligation to rid ourselves of our enemies who are antipeople and advance the gains of our objectives through greater awareness.

Comrades, to overcome the complex class struggle we have to enrich the experience our cadres have gained through their efforts and through our party's support so as to gain a stronger energy of conscience. Hence, every cadre is expected to prepare himself, in every organization to which he is assigned, to have the highest political and morale strength, professional maturity, and enlightened class awareness, and be exemplary through his continuous efforts.

Every cadre should be able to prove that he stands alongside the people in his day-to-day activity, ensuring the implementation of the objectives, policies, and directives of the party. [passage omitted]

The popular organizations have clearly said in their documents and assured repeatedly that they will mobilize their organs and members towards the implementation of the rules and directives of the revolutionary government and go forward with the leadership of Ethiopia. However, it is not possible to say that favorable moves and correct inclinations towards this end have been fully supported by all sides. Mistakes of wrong working relations which came out of unnecessary situations that we cannot reconcile with our experience are still evident. Today there are many organizations who do not give proper consideration to popular participation.

It is known that these popular organizations, instead of trying to correct their weaknesses and improve their capability, meet only when they are needed to carry out some exclusive responsibilities. It might be said that these popular organizations are not equipped with the necessary ability to discharge their responsibilities. It must be well known that these popular organizations are not the sole owners of the good results they have achieved, and they cannot be blamed for their weaknesses alone. The objective of the organs of the political system is based on the policy of working together for a joint end, avoiding weaknesses and strengthening the positive aspects for the future.

Hence, these organizations should be assisted to avoid the weaknesses for their proper participation. [sentence as heard] As has been said repeatedly, the popular organizations need the support of government organs and closer direction of our party. In turn they must mobilize themselves in utilizing the support they get from these organs. In the process of serving the needs of the members who collectivized them, they must improve their capability and make sure of the importance of their participation.

The lack of attention to popular organizations and the lack of their participation is reflected around the professional associations. It is to be recalled that older associations are being strengthened so as to assist the responsibility of professionals by strengthening the organisations into associations. [sentence as heard] The support from the government organs and follow-up from our party organs to the newly organized associations is not up to our expectations. Apart from some institutions, most have been under-utilized, as their talent has not been properly exploited. It is urgently necessary to avoid the weakness evident in this line. As I tried to make clear when I talked about the various professions in the field of culture, the professionals should not only expect the assistance they deserve, but they should also make efforts to help themselves.

Dear WPE Central Committee members and alternate members, as is well known and evident from our action, the working people of Ethiopia are on the way to opening up a new historical chapter of a new era of supremacy of direct ownership of power. We proudly remember the working people and members of our Revolutionary Armed Forces who have made sacrifices and are still making sacrifices for this great event and for our brighter future. We should be proud of this process of popular activity as it is a true history of the people.

At this time of great activity of the formation of the republic, we take this opportunity to call on those who say they care for the people and those who have shunned this process, either wittingly or unwittingly, to enjoy the fruits of the revolution.

We should note that our revolution has made repeated calls for peace to those with the objective of secession in the northern part of our country. At the early stage of our revolution they were called upon to contribute together with other Ethiopian combatants if they were truly fighting the feudal system and stood for the principles of the people. However, they took advantage of the situation our country was in at that time and with the objective of satisfying their narrow needs, chose to resort to force. But since it was necessary to counter their force with force, their attempt here was checked.

Basically, at no time did the Ethiopian revolution fire on any group. In fact, it was fired upon. We did not stop at this. We tried everything possible to bring them around to the correct popular objective by sending national elders. Not only did they spurn all this, but in trying to prove their strength made the attempt fruitless.

Later on, when the national democratic program was issued and a 9-point policy was presented with the aim of solving the problem peacefully, there was no goodwill on their part. Similar calls and efforts have been made during the process of our revolution and at the founding of our party. But our good-willed efforts did not receive the necessary response. Even though efforts were made at several forums hosted by friendly countries and repeated calls for a peaceful solution of the problem were made by teams or delegations, nothing came of it.

Nevertheless, we would like once again to remind all those with different objectives to give the necessary response to the decision of the broad masses and for true democracy at this time when the whole of Ethiopia's population is on the eve of forming the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia after preparing the constitution with the full participation of the broad masses and after approving it with their own votes.

Even now, we call upon them to accept the decisive stand of Ethiopia and reorient themselves toward the path of peace and end the suffering of the people, work together for equality and mutual progress, and not set one side against the other. Work for unity and strength, not for disunity and weakness; for progress and prosperity, not poverty.

Dear comrades, we all know the deep historical advantage that we will get from the formation of the PDRE, for which we firmly stand. It is very clear that the issue of its successful formation calls for the active and practical participation of each Ethiopian citizen more than ever before. I express my strongest conviction on behalf of our Central Committee that we will record more results in all sectors of the struggle, economic and social alike, and by properly securing territorial peace so as to gain popular supremacy by destroying the ploys of the narrow and antipeople forces and achieving our popular objectives. [applause]

If we work and struggle with popular participation and true belief, victory will certainly be ours today and tomorrow, as it was ours yesterday. Thank you. [applause]

KENYA

SUNA: Government Closes SPLA Offices in Nairobi

JN011020 Khartoum SUNA in English 0930 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Khartoum Apr 1st (SUNA) — The Kenyan Government has closed the offices of the rebel movement of Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) led by John Garang, a daily newspaper reported today. It did not, however, specify when the move was taken.

The daily *Al-Usbu'* said the SPLA offices in Nairobi were closed down in accordance with the declared policies of Kenyan Government and also due to the public discontent over the barbaric actions of the SPLA.

The paper also reffered to similar moves taken by the Ugandan Government of President Yoweri Museveni.

SEYCHELLES

USSR Delivers Fuel as 'Final Part' of Gift

AB251545 Paris AFP in English 1140 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Victoria, March 25 (AFP) — A consignment of 8,000 tonnes of fuel, the final part of a 5-million dollar gift from the Soviet Union, was officially delivered to the Seychelles Government Wednesday. [25 March]

The fuel, 5,000 tonnes of diesel oil to be used by the Seychelles in fisheries and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) protection, was handed over to the Seychelles Defence Forces Chief of Staff James Michel by Soviet Ambassador Mikhail Orlov aboard the Soviet tanker *"Kerch."*

Under an agreement signed in November 1985, the Soviet Union agreed to donate cement, diesel oil and petrol to Seychelles by the end of 1987. The cement and the rest of the fuel was delivered last year.

The gift followed another 8 million dollars worth of fuel, construction equipment and material delivered during 1983-85.

TANZANIA

Mwinyi Receives Angolan President on Stopover

EA312129 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1900 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Dar es Salaam — President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola has arrived in the country this evening on his way to India. At the airport, President Dos Santos was received by President Ali Hassan Mwinyi, Ndugu Joseph Warioba, the prime minister and first vice president, and other party and government officials. The Angolan leader is expected to leave for India tomorrow morning.

CAR

Chadian Foreign Minister Meets Kolingba

AB012153 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] In the northern part of Chad, where the Chadian Army is continuing, with the capture yesterday of a Libyan outpost situated some 100 km northwest of Ouadi Doum, Chadian Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou is on an official visit to the CAR. [sentence as heard] He met President Andre Kolingba in Bangui this morning for talks on bilateral relations. As for the meeting of the OAU's ad hoc committee on the Chadian conflict, which is scheduled for Libreville in April, Lassou expressed support for such a session, and even set out his country's position concerning the eventual recovery of the Aozou Strip:

[Begin recording] [Lassou] [passage indistinct]

[Reporter] President Francois Mitterrand said recently that he supports a military solution for the Chadian-Libyan conflict. You would have liked France to go beyond that stand.

[Lassou] You know, we receive aid from our French friends. We are asking our French friends to give us the equipment we need to defend ourselves. We are not asking them to fight for us. Once we receive the equipment [words indistinct]. What we are saying is that we need equipment to face the Libyan hosts. This is no small matter. One cannot take on a tank with bare hands. We need equipment to deal with the situation [words indistinct].

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] with attempts being made for the return of Goukouni Oueddei?

[Lassou] Well, the negotiations are still continuing [passage indistinct] We hope these negotiations will lead to something that serves the interests of Chad. [end recording]

CHAD

GUNT Leader on 'Tactical' Faya-Largeau Withdrawal

LD011917 Tripoli JANA in English 1748 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Bardai, Al-Tayr 1, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Acheikh ibn Oumar, the head of the Chadian Government of National Unity (CGNU) called on the Chadian people to be alert in facing the French-U.S. colonial scheme in Chad.

On Bardai radio today he said that this scheme aims firstly to rob the Chadian people's wealth then turn its country into a base to hit the stability of the sisterly progressive African states.

Adding that CGNU forces with their humble military capabilities have fought the recent battle facing an arsenal of war where the huge military deployment of French and U.S. forces besides the Ndjamena clique using the advanced means such as the AWACS planes stationed and operated on the Egyptian territories — and the French spy satellites and war planes. [sentence as received]

He indicated that (GUNT) forces, despite that, inflicted heavy losses amongst the hostile forces. He pointed out that the withdrawal of the National Liberation Army's forces from 'Faya' recently was a tactical measure taken to enable those forces to organise their ranks contrary to the false claims of Western imperialist media in this respect.

Acheikh ibn Oumar asserted that (GUNT) forces are now present on all Chadian soil and that the people of Chad will never turn its back on it while it sees its country occupied by French and Americans.

He said: "I call on the sons of the Chadian people, the fighters and troops in the south centre and east and in the northern front, to confront the aggression of the imperialist forces with revolutionary violence and to step up armed struggle." He confirmed that (GUNT) forces, which is spread all over Chad, will never allow the imperialist forces and their Habre to know the taste of rest at all. They will strike in the north, in the south, in the east and in the west. They will continue their national liberation struggle until the final victory is achieved.

Libyans Continue Retreat

AB011715 Paris AFP in French 1643 GMT 1 Apr 87

[By Bernard Apfeldorfer]

[Text] Ndjamena, 1 Apr (AFP) — Libyan troops are continuing their withdrawal in the extreme north of Chad. Several sources said today in Ndjamena that not one of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's soldiers is now south of the 20th Parallel.

The capture of the base at Ouadi Doum, north of Fada, on 22 March led to this general retreat. After Faya-Largeau, the northern palm grove that fell on 27 March to President Hissein Habre's troops, it was the turn of Ounianga Kebir, north of Ouadi Doum, which was seized on Monday [30 March]. According to Chadian radio, the Ndjamena forces took 30 Libyans prisoner in this garrison, and captured some war equipment, including a Marchetti SF-26, an Italian-made tactical ground support aircraft.

The Libyan positions, as they can be determined in Ndjamena today, are west of the Tibesti Region, north of Zouar, near the junction of the roads leading through the Tibesti Mountain to Bardai, Wour, and the Libyan border. Some of Tripoli's troops are also in Gouro, east of the Tibesti Region.

An official Chadian source, however, states that the Libyans are running helter-skelter everywhere, even though sporadic bombings are still going on in Ouadi Doum, Zouar, and Faya-Largeau.

Military observers unanimously agree that the fall of Ouadi Doum was a decisive victory for Ndjamena. According to French sources, the large arsenal seized included SAM-13 surface-to-air missiles with a range of 6 km; not SAM-10's as previously reported. Furthermore, the 3,800-meter concrete runway was untouched, the same sources noted.

Since the fighting began, 3,665 Libyans have been killed, according to a French military source. The value of the equipment seized is unofficially estimated at 1 billion [currency not specified]. The same source claimed Al-Qadhdhafi is now the greatest supplier of arms to Ndjamena.

Ouadi Doum also deprived the FANT of its commander in chief, Hassan Djamous, who was seriously wounded in the fighting and was transferred to the Val-de-Grace Hospital in Paris. Hassan Djamous, who is said to be barely 32 years old, led his men in the successful 2 January attack on Fada, the northeast palm grove. It was in Fada, his birthplace, that Hassan Djamous, a very discreet man, met Western journalists for the last time.

This loss was not officially announced in the Chadian capital and reliable sources pointed out that Yosko Issaka, assistant to Hassan Djamous and second in command of Goukouni Oueddei's Patriotic Armed Forces (FAP), has been named acting commander in chief of the FANT.

Once more, the authorities in Ndjamena are wondering what attitude Paris will take following Chad's victories in the north. French troops, within the framework of the "Sparrowhawk" operation, which has just marked its first anniversary, are deployed below the 16th Parallel, a position originally designed to defend Ndjamena. Then, with their installations at Biltine and Abeche (east), this position was expected to serve as rear base for President Habre's troops.

These troops are now operating along the 20th Parallel and cannot benefit from the French presence in Chad. Although no one has said it officially in Ndjamena, it seems that the men of the "Sparrowhawk" operation are awaiting further orders.

Meanwhile, military aid from friendly countries continues to arrive in the Chadian capital where a Galaxy aircraft, flying the U.S. flag, was on the airport runway today.

The first report from a Chadian source given to a journalist today on his arrival was an announcement that Al-Qadhdhafi had been overthrown in a coup. But today is 1 April, and tradition must be respected....

ZAIRE

Romania's Ceausescu Arrives on Visit 30 Mar

AB301930 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1730 GMT
30 Mar 87

[Text] Kinshasa, 30 Mar (AZAP) — Mr Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife Mrs Elena Ceausescu, who arrived in Kinshasa today, received a rousing welcome at the People's Palace, where a large crowd of militants of the Kinshasa MPR had gathered. On their arrival at the People's Palace, the Romanian presidential couple was presented to members of the constituted bodies of the state before viewing a parade by a detachment of the honor guard. On the way from Ndjili [Kinshasa International Airport] to the People's Palace, the Romanian presidential couple, in the company of their Zairian hosts, was hailed by residents of Kinshasa, who lined their route.

Mobutu Toasts Ceausescu

AB312150 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0958 GMT
31 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 30 Mar (AZAP) — Presidents Nicolae Ceausescu and Mobutu Sese Seko have voiced their determination to strengthen cooperative relations between their two countries. This came in an exchange of toasts at an official dinner hosted last night at the People's Palace by the Zairian presidential couple in honor of the Romanian head of state and his wife.

Marshal Mobutu emphasized the traits shared by Zaire and Romania, which explain the fruitful collaboration and the considerable level of trade that has been established and developed between the two states since establishing diplomatic relations in 1967. The two heads of state said the discussions during this 3-day visit will help give a new impetus to bilateral cooperation.

In this regard, Marshal Mobutu stated that Zaire's 5-year economic and social development plan offers the ideal framework for certain joint projects.

On the international level, they condemned the proliferation of tension and wars throughout the world and stressed their determination to work for peace, while advocating dialogue and negotiation in the settlement of international disputes.

They also called for increased active solidarity among developing countries, so that together they can bring the developed world to the negotiating table to establish a new international economic order based on justice and the principle of mutual benefit.

Here is the text of the toast proposed by the MPR founding chairman:

Mr President, Madame [words indistinct] to whom I present my [words indistinct] homage, allow me, first of all, to reiterate to you and the honorable delegation accompanying you, on behalf of the Zairian people grouped within the MPR and in my own name, our warm wishes of welcome to the hospitable African land of Zaire.

The spontaneous and fraternal reception accorded you by MPR militants since your arrival in our capital reflects the quality of relations existing between our two countries.

In you, we salute not only the head of state of a friendly country, but also a militant nationalist, a fighter and politician whose courage, determination, and experience have played a decisive role in making Romania a country respected throughout the world, and one confident in its future. [passage omitted]

I am happy to know that the principles which determine our policies, notably respect for independence and sovereignty, noninterference in the internal affairs of others, and a universal open-door policy, are the same as those of Romania.

These traits shared by our countries explain why fruitful cooperation and exchanges in various sectors have taken root and grown between us.

Your visit, Mr President, offers us the opportunity to review this cooperation, and I dare to hope that our discussions and the analysis of our experts will help give it new impetus.

In this regard, concerning Zaire, the economic and social development plan drawn up following the 12th Ordinary Session of the MPR Central Committee lays down a framework within which certain bilateral cooperation projects can be placed and developed. [passage omitted]

The Republic of Zaire is happy to count you among the privileged partners with whom she intends to promote a multifacted form of cooperation for our mutual benefit.

It is our fervent wish to diversify our exchanges based on a thoroughly understood interdependence that respects the sovereignty of other nations. Our commitment to this principle is such that Zaire, my country, has always felt at ease in cooperating with countries whose ideology is different from ours.

Mr President, you are visiting us at a time when the world faces many problems. Peace, which is essential for the future of our planet, seems more precarious than ever. Everything is going on as if we were living in a world of the deaf. It is enough to see what is going on in the world to be convinced of this.

Zaire, my country, has chosen a political orientation of her own, without being the object of foreign ideological struggles. We have always fought to maintain and reinforce our positive neutrality through membership in the Nonaligned Movement.

Our diplomacy is guided by the ideal of peace. We believe in the virtues of dialogue rather than the use of force, but unfortunately, these good steps are not enough to ensure peace.

It is deplorable today that international relations are still characterized by power struggles and a balance of terror. The main threat to peace and international security stems from the nuclear arsenals of the superpowers. A new world order cannot be established as long as these nations increase their stockpiles of these ever more murderous and sophisticated weapons.

International negotiations on disarmament should be accelerated. The Reykjavik meeting last year and the recent proposals on Euromisiles are steps in the right direction, even if their significance is severely limited.

It is imperative for the superpowers to adopt concrete measures to achieve true disarmament and to cut military budgets so that the resources earmarked for arms may be used for the economic and social development of states. This will help save mankind from the danger of a new destructive war.

Mr President, establishing a new international economic order has become an imperative necessity and the special UN General Assembly session on Africa's serious economic situation, which was held in New York on 27-31 May 1986, has clearly testified to it. Despite the renewed preparedness of our states to work together for a new international economic order, the North-South dialogue has not made any progress and is now deadlocked. The economic policy of the developing states for the creation of a new world economic order — an essential factor in controlling the capital and raw materials market — has been met by a stubborn refusal of the great idustrial and financial powers.

We have always stated at every opportunity that the current economic system is unfair and must be replaced by a more just economic order, more equitable and better adapted to the new data of a constantly changing world.

In the face of this serious situation, we must redouble our efforts to overcome the condition of underequipped countries, by counting first on our own resources. We must devise new concrete solutions, for our working masses are fed up with abstract resolutions and programs of action that are adopted but short-lived.

The developing countries should close ranks in their negotiations with the industrialized states to attain their objectives. What is particularly important is to restructure international commerce by offering a fair price for raw materials, to review the world monetary system, and to resolve the public debt problem, particularly for less-developed countries.

The reduction of the developing countries' foreign debt is an urgent necessity. The considerable public and private foreign debt and the interest rate take a heavy toll on the economies of the developing countries.

We feel that the revamping of our economies is the only way to resolve the foreign debt problem, without calling into question the very principle of repayment. Given what we have experienced with the IMF, economic recovery policies must be more responsive to the economic and social development priorities of our countries. Moreover, the repayment of our debts must not be made to the detriment of the living standards of our peoples and development programs.

It is in this spirit that Zaire, my country, has decided to limit the payment of its foreign debt to the extent its budget and balance of payments permit. [passage omitted]

Africa, our continent, has not been spared from this. We believe that the problem between Morocco and the Polisario is moving in the right direction since the two parties involved accepted the UN secretary general's mediation in organizing a free and democratic referendum on self-determination.

Concerning the Chadian conflict, we hail the efforts of President Hissein Habre, who is about to complete the national reconciliation process. But Chad's only problem today is the occupation of part of its territory by its powerful and arrogant northern neighbor.

In South Africa, the black people's struggle for the establishment of a more democratic and dignified society is obstructed by the racist Pretoria regime. The racist regime is doing everything to perpetuate its illegal occupation of Namibia. The only way out remains the immediate granting of independence to Namibia under the leadership of SWAPO, and on the basis of Security Council Resolution 435 and other resolutions of the UN Security Council and General Assembly.

I appeal to the conscience and solidarity of the international community for the application of mandatory sanctions against South Africa, as decreed by the United Nations and the last Paris Conference held in July 1986.

I also call for the solidarity of all nonaligned states and other countries with (?the same goodwill) to contribute to the Africa Solidarity Fund set up in Harare during the last nonaligned summit in September 1986. That fund is designed to help the countries of southern Africa withstand Pretoria's economic blackmail. I am pleased to note, Mr President, that the Romanian people have always been in solidarity with the fight waged by the people of southern Africa to fulfill their legitimate aspirations to independence.

Mr President, your country is committed to the equality of states and the respect of independence and national sovereignty. We are faithful to all these objectives, for Zaire is committed to a more humane and just society.

Finally, I invite you, ministers, citizen commissioners of state, your excellencies ambassadors and heads of diplomatic missions, ladies and gentlemen, citizens, in keeping with our authenticity, to raise your glass and pour a few drops of your drink into the ashtray in front of you, in honor of His Excellency the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania Nicolae Ceausescu, and Mrs Elena Ceausescu, to whom I reiterate my most respectful tribute, and in honor of their delegation and the entire Romanian people. May Romanian-Zairian friendship and cooperation live forever.

Romania oyee. [Zairian vernacular]

Zaire oyee.

BURKINA FASO

National CDR Conference Opens 30 Mar

AB011010 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Excerpt] The second national conference of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] scheduled to take place in our country from 30 March to 4 April began in Dedougou yesterday. Captain Thomas Sankara, president of Burkina Faso, presided over the opening ceremonies. We have this report from our special correspondents:

[Begin recording] [First reporter] The second national CDR conference has officially opened at the Dedougou People's Entertainment Center, where the town's 21,000 residents were mobilized to make the opening ceremony a memorable one. There were songs and dances by various cultural groups from several departments in Mou Houn Province. The ceremony, which was presided over by Comrade Capt Thomas Sankara, CNR chairman and president of Burkina Faso, was of course, attended by the national CDR general secretary, Captain Pierre Ouedraogo, members of the National Council of the Revolution and the revolutionary government, the diplomatic corps, and several guests, including the Nicaraguan minister of foreign affairs, Father Miguel d'Escoto, and the Ghanaian national political counselor for CDR's, Lieutenant Colonel Assassie, retired.

The welcoming speech was delivered by Comrade Michel Meda, high commissioner of Mou Houn Province and chairman of the Mou Houn provincial revolutionary powers, who said he was pleased with the honor accorded his province, which has long been known for its anti-imperialist struggle. It is a province that has ably performed the task assigned it. He also expressed hope that concrete decisions would be made at the end of the debate.

This wish was seconded by the representative of the UNAB [National Union of Burkina Elders] in his remarks. Pioneers always come first. Recalling this fact, they were given the right to speak. Their representative made particular reference to the range and quality of consumer goods Burkina Faso can produce. This is a call for all of us to consume products made in Burkina Faso.

The fearless amazons, members of the Union of Burkinabe Women [Union des Femmes Burkinabe; UFB], are determined to contribute to the establishment of an independent national economy, according to the union's spokeswoman. She emphasized that we must determine here and now, at this second national CDR conference, the concrete part we have to play in attaining this objective. The militants of the People's Democratic Revolution within the UFB are aware of this role. They will have their say in the debate, as they are producers of wealth.

The keynote speech was delivered by the national CDR secretary general, Capt Pierre Ouedraogo. His remarks, in turn, were preceded by those of the Nicaraguan minister of foreign affairs.

[Second reporter] Father Miguel d'Escoto, the Nicaraguan minister of foreign affairs currently visiting our country, came all the way to Dedougou to preach the message of revolutionary struggle. He reaffirmed that the Burkinabe revolution has strengthened faith in the revolutionary struggle around the world. In Father d'Escoto's opinion, it is clear that the economic, military, and political fronts must be bolstered. Father d'Escoto's speech also covered the revolutionary experiment in his country, Nicaragua, where military struggle is a permanent fixture. He praised the efforts of the Burkinabe CDR's, which he said should always seek to triumph. The Nicaraguan minister reiterated that all peace-loving peoples should support the August revolution.

CDR General Secretary Capt Pierre Ouedraogo gave similar advice in his remarks. The first national CDR conference gave rise to qualitative changes, he said, including the establishment of a new organizational chart for the national CDR General Secretariat, Operation Spearhead [Operation fer de Lance], and the partial achievement of the goal of 2 million tons of cereal production.

Turning to the Dedougou meeting, Capt Ouedraogo described it as very important in terms of its objective and organization. Highlighting this theme, the national CDR general secretary called for a thorough examination of economic issues. A solution to these problems will bring progress and independence to our country. Countless solutions are in no way necessary for an independent national economy.

According to Capt Ouedraogo, the goal of an independent economy requires that we produce and consume Burkinabe goods without living in isolation from the rest of the world. He warned that victory, that is, the creation of a national economy, will never come if we simply stop or rest on our laurels. [passage omitted] [end recording]

MALI

UDFM Congress Ends, Resolutions Adopted

AB011937 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Resolutions adopted by the extraordinary congress of the Democratic Union of Malian People in Bamako from 28 to 31 March — read by chief rapporteur Sidiki Diarra]

[Text] The second extraordinary congress of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM] met in Bamako from 28 to 31 March 1987.

Considering that the national debate on the draft national orientation and public code of conduct charters revealed gross inefficiency in the actions of officials responsible for party activities and the conduct of state affairs; considering that dynamism within the party depends on the quality of its members; considering that the gravity of the present situation (?calls for) a real national drive to implement the national orientation and public code of conduct charters, as well as the statutes and bylaws of the party, the congress (?decides on) the immediate convocation of a national council with a view to forming a special committee and nominating its members. The special committee will assist the secretary general as stipulated by the provisions of the national orientation and public code of conduct charters, statutes, and bylaws, [word indistinct] the renewal of membership in party bodies to ensure the emergence of competent, committed, and devoted militants.

[Signed] The Congress.

Resolution on the Moralization of Public Life.

The second extraordinary congress of the UDPM was held from 28 to 31 March 1987 in the sports stadium auditorium. Considering the serious political, economic, and social situation in our country; considering the growing corruption, favoritism, and [word indistinct]; and aware of the urgent need for the firm implementation of measures to inject morality into public life, the congress welcomes the formation of the special investigative commission on illegal enrichment and corruption. It also calls on all party militants to support, in a pertinent, serious, intelligent, responsible, and perceptive fashion, the methods used by this body to deal with these vices. In addition, it requests that all laws in force be strictly applied.

[Signed] The Congress

NIGERIA

Committees To Screen Religious TV Programs

AB312244 Kaduna Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Committees have been set up by the Nigerian Television Authority [NTA] to screen all religious programs before transmission. The general manager, NTA Abuja, Alhaji Saidu Abubakar, said at a dinner party marking the 10th year anniversary of the NTA as a corporate body, that the committees, headed by program managers of television stations, will ensure that such programs were free from incitement and condemnation of one religion by another. The committees have been (?empowered) to seek guidance or clearance from (?appropriate) religious leaders before transmitting such programs.

The general manager said although the decree establishing the authority provided for restraint, the recent sectarian disturbances had necessitated the establishment of such committees. [Words indistinct] from organizations including the Academic Staff Union of Universities had called for banning of religious teachings on radio and television.

Bendel Restricts Days of Religious Programs

AB010904 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] From Bendel State comes a report that all forms of religious preaching on radio and television have been restricted to Fridays and Sundays.

An official statement in Benin said the measure had become necessary because the government's call for moderation in religious preaching on the electronic media had not been heeded. The statement therefore directed the affected media to ensure that they were not used for preaching outside the stipulated days. It restated that government's earlier ban on open air preaching remained in force.

Bauchi State Orders Reopening of Schools

AB010910 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] The Bauchi State government has ordered the reopening of all institutions of higher learning closed as a result of the recent disturbances in some parts of the country. The state Ministry of Education has directed all students of the College of Education, Azare, and final year students of Arabic Teachers College, Gombeh, to report to their schools immediately.

Other institutions closed down will resume normal classes on the 22d of this month. The government has advised all the students to be on good behavior when they return to their various institutions.

ANGOLA

UNITA Claims 134 MPLA Troops Killed 1-24 March

MB010845 (Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern Africa 0600 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 1 Apr (KUP) — UNITA forces killed 135 MPLA government troops during military actions carried out in 10 Angolan provinces between March 1 to 24.

According to a balance of military activities for the period released by the department of military operations, UNITA forces also captured four FAPLA soldiers and destroyed 39 vehicles.

UNITA'S total causalties in the same period were put at 12 dead and 41 wounded.

During the period, UNITA's special commandos launched a successful attack in the centre of the city of Menongue in Cuando Cubango Province.

Dos Santos Makes 4-Day Visit to New Delhi

For Delhi coverage of the visit to India by President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, including talks held with Indian President Giani Zail Singh and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, see the India section of the 2 April South Asia *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

MOZAMBIQUE

Resistance Movement Frees 6 Europeans

AU011848 Paris AFP in English 1813 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Lisbon, April 1 (AFP) — Three Italian missionaries and three Portuguese nationals, including a nun, were freed Wednesday by the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) after a three- month detention, a spokesman for the rightwing rebel group said here.

Paulo Oliveira, the representative of RENAMO in Europe, said the six Westerners were handed to an international humanitarian organisation and later driven to Malawi.

Italian priests Ezio Toller, Vittorino Barzolli and Onorino Venturini and Portuguese nun Maria Adelaide da Silva and two other Portuguese, Clarinda Rodrigues and her daughter Ana Alexandra Rodrigues, ended three months' detention in a Mozambique. [sentence as received]

Mr. Oliveira said that three other Italian missionaries, who were also captured by RENAMO, have expressed the wish to stay in Mozambique and continue their work in the "liberated regions" manned by RENAMO forces.

Chissano Recieves Gorbachev Message from Talyzin

MB010725 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano said in Maputo yesterday that the 10-year-old Mozambique-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation served to strengthen the ties linking the peoples, parties, and governments of the two countries.

President Joaquim Chissano said this moments after receiving a personal message from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU. The message was delivered by Nikolay Talyzin, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who is in Maputo for the 10th anniversary of the Mozambique-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.

President Chissano stressed that this relationship will continue in accordance with both countries' desire for peace and progress.

Jorge Rebelo Leads Delegation to Moscow

For coverage of the Mozambican delegation's visit to the USSR on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Mozambique-USSR friendship and cooperation treaty, including the signing of a party ties agreement, see the Sub-Saharan Africa section of the 2 April Soviet Union *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

SOUTH AFRICA

P.W. Botha Appoints New Environment Minister

MB310701 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, has appointed the deputy minister of agriculture and water supply, Mr Gert Kotze, as the new minister of environmental affairs and of water affairs. He replaces Mr John Wiley, who died on Sunday. The statement issued in Cape Town said Mr Kotze would be sworn in as a full cabinet member at Tuinhuys tomorrow. The statement also said the deputy minister of water affairs, Mr Jappie van Wyk, [name and title as heard] has been appointed deputy minister of water supply in the Ministers' Council of the House of Assembly.

Botha Transfers Some Security Powers to Justice

MB311750 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1734 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Cape Town, March 31, SAPA — The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, has transferred the administration of the provisions of certain security acts from the minister of law and order to the minister of justice as from tomorrow, SABC radio news reports.

In a government notice published in a special *Government Gazette* certain powers and activities in terms of the Public Safety Act, which provides for the safety of the public and the maintenance of public order in circumstances such as a state of emergency or internal unrest, and the Internal Security Act, which provides for security action in respect of organisations, publications and persons, are being transferred from Mr Adriaan Vlok to Mr Kobie Coetsee, the radio said.

The administration of all the provisions of the Affected Organisations Act, providing for the prohibition of the receipt of money from abroad for certain organisations and the Intimidation Act are being transferred.

The practical implications of the transfer regarding the Public Safety Act means that the administration of the provisions of this act will now — as used to be the case — be restored with the minister of justice, the radio said.

However, the authority to declare, by notice in the *Government Gazette*, an area an unrest area in certain circumstances is still vested in the minister of law and order.

Provisions of the Internal Security Act that will still be administered by the minister of law and order are:

— That a person detained in terms of the Section 29 for interrogation by a police officer, shall be detained in accordance with the directions of the commissioner of the South African Police except for the directions issued from time to time by the minister of law and order;

— That after each visit to a detainee an inspector of detainees shall furnish the minister of law and order with a comprehensive report of such visit in writing.

— A police officer of or above the rank of warrant officer may, in certain circumstances, cause any person to be detained for not more than 48 hours and is directed at immediate action for the termination of a state of public disturbance, riot or public violence.

— Section 50A (which applies only if provisions thereof are declared applicable by the state president by proclamation in the *Government Gazette*) provides that a police officer of or above the rank of lieutenant colonel may, after the initial 48-hour period of detention, in certain circumstances, extend the detention of such a person to a maximum of 180 days. He may also at any time order the release of such detainee.

— Whenever a police officer has ordered the persons attending a prohibited or riotous gathering to disperse, the minister shall report the circumstances concerned to parliament.

Vlok Announces Release of Presbyterian Leader

MB271622 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1621 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — The general secretary of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa, the Rev Jean Francois Bill, has been released from detention subject to certain conditions, the minister of law and order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, announced in Pretoria today.

The conditions for the release of Rev Bill, who has been in detention since last June, were not made public by the minister.

"I have decided to release the Rev J.E. Bill from detention after carefully considering all aspects relating to his particular case.

"I have also considered representations made to me by the moderator of the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa, Dr Johan Heyns, as well as certain individuals and organisations.

"I am satisfied, after considering all the aspects relating to Rev Bill's particular circumstances, that his continued detention is no longer necessary.

"His release is subjected to certain conditions and with immediate effect," said a statement issued by the SAP public relations division on behalf of the minister.

The Evangelical Swiss Interchurch Aid Group yesterday made public a letter to the South African Embassy in Bern urging authorities to free Rev Bill, 53, who has dual Swiss and South African nationality.

He is general secretary of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa, based in Johannesburg, and was detained last June 20 after his house and office were searched. He was detained on suspicion of links with the African National Congress, but he was never formally charged.

Although a prosecutor ruled last month that there was not enough evidence to formally charge him with anti-state activities, he remained in detention because of his suspected links to unrest last June when the state of emergency was imposed, according to the South African Embassy in Bern, which announced last night that Rev Bill would probably be freed today.

Pik Botha Addresses Campaign Rally in Ysterplaat

Defends Press Restrictions

MB010501 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2110 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Cape Town, March 31, SAPA — He would willingly make the curbs on the press even more severe if it would safeguard the security of the country and the public, the minister of foreign affairs, said tonight.

Addressing 400 people at a campaign meeting at Ysterplaat in support of the Maitland candidate, the deputy minister of finance, Mr Kent Durr, he said he had no apologies to offer for the security measures taken against the press.

"We placed press security measures to avoid hundreds of killings of blacks by blacks. I have no apologies to make and I will make these measures even more severe if we can safeguard the security of the country and the public of this country," Mr Botha said.

"Terrorists have the right to hold a gun to my head and blow a hole through it, to take petrol and set people alight and kick them while they are burning but we don't have the right to control the press who are feeding the blood-thirsty designs abroad.

"This government will not countenance it, not now or after May 6."

Mr Kent Durr said the PFP which had been responsible for wrecking the old United Party [UP] now wished to create "an alliance of moderates" in a vain attempt to reconstruct the UP.

"But Humpty Dumpty will not be put together again," he said.

The fact was that the alliance was not an alliance of moderates. Mr John Malcomess (the PFP MP for Port Elizabeth central) said that Mr Oliver Tambo was a moderate.

"Will he then invite him into the alliance," Mr Durr wanted to know.

The reality was that on May 7 there would still be a National Party government.

"We are not busy with games and we can't trivialise this political watershed."

Given South Africa's problems, did the audience want a weaker or stronger government on May 7?

After a loud positive response Mr Durr said the latter was desirable because "we stand before the most daunting challenge in our history."

"We have faced many in the past. The one is the challenge of bringing together overarching structures in South Africa which will make government by consent possible and which all our people will wish to defend and on a basis which is sustainable and could face the test of time.

"What we say and do must be worthy of our country, we must take the high road of reform.

"Mr Pik Botha is a man who is impatient — we are all impatient — to build a better South Africa. But there is no quick fix. That is a delusion which only wastes time and we must do the fundamentals and get it right," Mr Durr said.

Challenges Hawke on Tambo

MB010504 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2223 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Cape Town, March 31, SAPA — The minister of foreign affairs Mr Pik Botha had challenged the Australian Prime Minister Mr Bob Hawke to tell the Australian people whether he agrees with Mr Oliver Tambo and the African National Congress support for violence and communist revolution.

He addressed 400 people in Ysterplaat at a campaign meeting tonight.

He said he noted that Mr Tambo was in Australia and had cancelled an invitation to appear on television.

But the truth of that organisation and its leadership was slowly surfacing. Its violence was coming to the fore.

"My duty is to ask the Australian Government a few questions," Mr Botha said.

He quoted ANC policy which said the organisation had learnt from the steadfastiness of the Soviet people which served as an example to the ANC and where "the true power of the people was turned from a dream into reality.

"I ask the Australian prime minister to answer to his people, does he agree?"

He wanted to know from the Australian prime minister whether he agreed. "He must answer to his own people whether he agrees with this.

"Do you agree with the necklace method that Tambo has praised?"

Did the prime minister agree with Tambo who identified businessmen and policemen as targets for violent retaliation because they were party of the oppressive system and did he also agree that "there was happiness and joy each time a white bleeds."

"Does the Australian prime minister agree with this — I ask the Australian people to ask him, does he agree?"

Did he agree with the political method to burn so-called traitors' bodies to a despicable mess and kick them while they were writhing in pain.

Did he agree with Tambo that such people deserved a death "so abhorent people will not think of it and that black businessmen were collaborators deserving such a death."

"What will the Australian prime minister do if Mr Tambo starts telling Australians to nationalise their businesses; that there is to be no religious freedom or that there is to be no free press.

"I feel the prime minister must reply to the Australian people while he (Mr Tambo) is there."

UDF Activist Predicts Violence if NP Wins

MB011707 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1505 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Cape Town April 1 SAPA — Violence "on a scale never seen before" could break out in the townships if the National Party was returned to power in the election, a UDF activist told about 250 people at a UDF lunchtime meeting here today.

The activist, Mr Joe Marks, expressed this view on a platform shared with Dr Alex Boraine, former PFP MP for Pinelands, that blacks saw the election as a "barometer."

"We are going to hear whether whites in this country are willing to take their place in the South African nation."

Whites should "finally reject in toto the National Party government and their policies."

"If the NP government comes back into power we will take this as a signal that you have rejected our path of peaceful protest," he said.

The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, had said he was calling the election because he wanted a mandate for change.

"We in the townships believe that means that after the election he's going to call together his employees, the Gatsha Buthelezis, the Matanzimas, and tell the nation at large, 'we have now met with the authentic leaders of the people.'

"I tell you now the real leaders of the people are in Pollsmoor and on the Island (Robben Island). "If you do not believe that, call a free and fair election tomorrow. We in the UDF will abide by that decision and the democratic process."

Mr Marks said recent unrest in the townships had been an expression of the anger of the "masses" and had not been organised by the UDF.

Cape Town Council To Oppose Group Areas Eviction

MB011016 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0847 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Cape Town, April 1, SAPA — The Cape Town City Council resolved unanimously yesterday to mandate its executive committee to take up the cudgels on behalf of those in the city who face imminent eviction and removal under the Group Areas Act. Two of the council's most prominent nationalists, Mr Chris Joubert and Mrs Esme Chiat, were not in the council chamber during the debate, and former Mayor Mr Kosie van Zyl did not demur when the matter came to the vote.

Mr Jan van Eck, who has a seat on the council, introduced the motion. He said the Group Areas Act was "an insult to every person of colour. It has uprooted settled communities, caused insecurity and led to massive transport costs for those who are poorest," Mr van Eck said. "It has also caused massive alienation."

Several councillors said people in their wards also faced eviction under the act, though not as immediately as the 18 families who had received letters from the authorities asking if they would sell their properties.

P.W. Botha Defends NP Record on Reform

MB011241 Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans 29 Mar 87 p 25

["Interview" with State President P.W. Botha by *Rapport* editor Bob Van Walsem; date and place not given]

[Text] [Botha] Let me first say that a ruling party, especially a ruling party in the position of the NP, actually has two main tasks: The country must be governed from day to day in a practical manner, as there are a multitude of things that demand the government's attention each daiy; at the same time, the party must look forward and break new ground. To use the old Afrikaans saying, it must break new ground and prepare for the harvest.

A party must be idealistic and realistic at the same time. I have always said that as a leader I stand for realistic idealism in South Africa.

We must keep track of the realities, deal with them, and go forward to explore unbroken ground.

No leader worth his salt enjoys it when people break away from his party. On the other hand, those who break away unfortunately do not know what the leaders know. They cannot know or else they themselves would be leaders.

Now consider the matter of reform. Reform is not something new in South Africa, and is not an idea that originated a year or 2 ago. Since its inception the NP has taken the path of reform. There is no other political party that has done more to bring about reform in South Africa.

Since 1915, there has been no great lasting change in South Africa that was not initiated by the NP or by its governments, be they with regard to citizenship, a flag, an anthem, independence, or personal relationships. Every issue was a challenge for the NP toward reform and renewal.

What emerged after the referendum of a few years ago is that the country was offered a new dispensation. We said we want to settle the matter of a new dispensation with the colored and Indian population.

That we achieved. I do not say it was perfect. Nothing in this life is perfect, but it was a good start. That dispensation is working, and the more we learn about one another and the more we discuss matters, the more we learn to understand one another. It is true the new dispensation, the Constitution, has its shortcomings, and with time we will certainly pay attention to these problems, but the fact remains that we are shaping a new system that did not exist until now. That was true reform put into practice in a realistic manner.

But we also said during the referendum that once it was over, we should review the matter of the black communities outside the TBVC [Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei] states and the self-governing national states and deal with it.

Now I would like to say this here: The TBVC states are a reality and no one is going to interfere with that. They are not going to allow anyone to meddle, as there are between 6 and 7 million blacks who already enjoy independence in those states.

The self-governing national states are also a reality that no one will undo. Not one of those self-governing states will give up its autonomy. I asked them: Do you want less autonomy or more? They all said more. The draft bill to give them greater autonomy has been prepared and is awaiting finalization by parliament.

Even in the case of those states — where 7 million people enjoy self-government — there is constant discussion between the South African Government and their governments. There is not only discussion but joint decisionmaking on the basis of equality. A great many of the black communities in South Africa have, therefore, progressed so far that they have achieved human dignity.

Now we are dealing with the black communities outside the TBVC states and the national states. They are mostly urban by nature, and we believe they should be led on a path of democracy and not revolutionary dictatorship.

If you want to do that, you first have to ensure that there is proper local management and help them establish it — not establish it for them, but help them establish it for themselves. And that is why we attach great value to local government, which is the basis of good democracy.

But we will not stop there. We say there is a communality between those black communities that are mainly in the cities and the inhabitants of towns, and the neighboring towns and cities, and that is why the regional service councils were created, on which the local authorities of all population groups are represented. They negotiate with one another about communal matters, because water supply, power supply, and transport are all communal services with which people deal daily. These regional service councils have to consult with one another.

But we have not left it there. We have also made provincial government a possibility for these communities. That is why we do not restrict the provincial executive committees to whites; we also have representatives of other population groups. But we have gone further. We have said that provincial authorities can now legally enter into discussions with the authorities of self-governing states. That is being done. The system of local and regional authorities is already operating in South Africa. It is being built up step-by-step.

But let us move on to another very important consideration. We must give these urban communities, as well as the rural ones, a form of government that will provide them with a great degree of autonomy. That is what we are focusing on today, and it is why we, for example, want to establish a national council. More than 150 responses to the published bill outlining the national council have already been received from various communities and leaders.

On one thing everyone agrees, and that is, that a national council is necessary. It is being considered. At the moment discussions are being held with many people about this council. In fact, the department concerned has already held discussions with 500 different leaders and groups of leaders. As soon as parliament resumes sitting, we will have to go ahead with the council's creation. I made that very clear at the party's federal congress in Durban — and this is included in a motion approved by the congress — and we do not want to stop there. We want to use the national council as a body to give representation to the national states and self-governing states too. This national council could possibly lead to a council of state on which leaders will serve and together discuss common issues on the basis of consensus.

And while one is leading with that, one must also bear in mind the right of the various communities to deal with their own affairs. What I found interesting about the Natal Indaba is that it recognized the existence of minority groups that have rights and must be provided for. So we are succeeding in getting more people to agree that South Africa is a country of minorities. It is a multicultural country of minorities and we will have to work out a system unique to this country to provide for the rights of those groups, while making it possible to discuss matters of mutual concern on a sound basis.

Let me return to my first point, namely, that the ruling party does not only have the idealistic task of venturing into new territory, but must also deal with day-to-day problems. It has to fulfill a double role: It must govern the country in an orderly manner, and at the same time it must carry out reform without bringing that order under threat. Our task is now being made more difficult by a number of things. The first difficulty is the revolutionary forces, which do not want to see such progress because, should we succeed in our policy of reform, should we succeed in our policy of renewal, there would be no place for them in South Africa. They realize that, and that is why they are trying to get their power clique into the South African driver's seat before we succeed.

The second difficulty is the unprecedented interference in our domestic affairs by some opportunistic governments using our country for their own domestic ends. The struggle in the United States and in other countries of the world has nothing to do with the interests of the blacks or colored people in South Africa. It is simple opportunism. Unfortunately, the West has allowed itself to be infiltrated by advocates of communism and communist elements creating problems and difficulties in those countries, elements who plan to make matters more difficult for those governments in their own states.

So my answer first is that if there is a split on the left — and I do not believe it is a big split — they are people who have no knowledge of what the government is doing. They could not have that knowledge, because they do not bear the responsibility. I do not want to belittle them, but I find among them a total lack of realism. They are trying to formulate a policy, and the more they formulate, the more confused they become. Speaking from experience, though, I can say I know of no general election where there was no threat or omen of independents wanting to save the world. Independents never get very far in South Africa, because we have two mainstreams here. There is the pro-South African stream, which puts South Africa first, and which puts its interests first, even as far as its group relations are concerned. Then there is the other stream, which wants to make us subservient to the dictates of other countries. The independents will become submerged between these two groups. They will have to make a choice.

The question is whether the present leadership of the party has the will to reform. A party's leader and its leadership are an expression of the desires of those represented by the party. It does not help to try to separate the leadership of the National Party from the party itself. When a party has become as large as the National Party, a leader has to keep track of the different views within the organization. There are different views in the NP, but not on principles: There we still have no differences. There are differences about the application of policy. That is as it should be. A person from the western province will emphasize a different policy application within the party's principles than someone from the northern Transvaal. But that is not to say they differ on broad policy.

But there is a difference between principles and policy, as policy deals with the daily implementation of practical steps involved in keeping a country on an orderly path. The fault I find with the critics to the left of the government and party is that they are hypnotized by the idea of reform. It is almost as if they, like Kwame Nkrumah, want to shout out: First reach political heaven; first attain political solutions; and the rest will come to you. Things do not work that way. Reform in South Africa is not merely constitutional reform; it is also social reform. We in South Africa are deeply involved in applying social reform measures such as population planning. We are busy with urban renewal on a large scale, in conjunction with the private sector. Deregulation and privatization seek to bring about social and economic reform and to put more people in a position where they can make a greater contribution to the country's progress.

As such, reform is much more comprehensive than mere political rights, as political rights must be based on stability, on economic ability, and on the will to protect that which is yours against the revolutionary. That cannot be achieved overnight simply by granting political rights and neglecting other matters.

As for the question of how the National Party plans to approach its internal critics or those who can be won back: The NP believes in democratic government. That means any person has the right to differ with the party. Of course, the NP would like to incorporate as many people as possible to help it think and to help it in its dealings. Which party is better suited for that than the party which names its candidates democratically, holds democratic congresses, and time and again goes to the country with elections and referendums to persuade as many people as possible to work with it?

An election or a referendum is somewhat like house cleaning: When you are through, the house looks better. I believe this election is going to make the NP look better when it is over. The signs are already there. With regard to cooperation, the NP is now in a position to say: Look, we have reached a new stage; we want to take you along. Where to? Not on the road of surrender or the road of majority black rule, but on the road of orderly coexistence for minority groups. People ask if we should have a federation or a confederation. I say it is wrong to try to transplant stereotyped terms like federal systems or confederal systems to South Africa, when these systems only developed in other countries over generations.

What we need here is a uniquely South African system. It may have elements of a federal system; it may have elements of a confederal system, eventually. But it must be uniquely South African, or it will not work.

We have to guard against two things. First, that the stability and rights built up over many generations by white cultural values are not lost, as it is also in the interest of the other population groups that stability and those rights survive. If tomorrow South Africa were to surrender its white population to the maelstrom — as we are sometimes asked to do — by making continual concessions, then this country will see large-scale conflict between minority groups.

As for the coming election, that has to do with fundamental opportunities; it has to do with proper order; it has to do with proper group relations; it has to do with putting South Africa first; it has to do with our view that we will not tolerate foreign interference; it has to do with the right to create new structures for other population groups that do not have them; and it has to do with the right of everyone to make a greater economic contribution to the progress of this country.

We have one great asset in this country, and that is the fact that the overwhelming majority of the population of South Africa is Christian — black, white, and colored. This I have found in all my discussions with the different population groups. The right to religious freedom is another basic possession we cherish. We must use that to build further in all directions. In other words, we must take the best from the people of this country and build it up. That which is bad in the people we must try to change into something better and more beautiful for the future.

We find this in our youth. Would our young people defend our borders the way they do if they were not realistic idealists? Look at the wonderful dedication that radiates from our security forces; look at our young policemen who work so many hours overtime. They have a realistic idealism; and one cannot say they are doing it for money, because they are not that well paid.

There is an inner strength among our young people that must be used to build up the country. That is why there is no need in this election to speak about personalities. The issue in this election is whether the white voting public is giving the government a further mandate to follow a path of realistic idealism in its reform and its sacrifice for South Africa.

There are already signs that all is well with the NP. I have seen this at various gatherings I have attended recently. But what is more, I have seen this in the tens of thousands of letters I have received from all over South Africa — tens of thousands that express overwhelming support for me. I am not pessimistic, as that would mean I have no faith in South Africa. I do have faith in South Africa. I have faith in its ability.

Information Bureau Issues 1 April Unrest Report

MB020809 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0805 GMT 2 Apr 87

[Text] Pretoria April 2 SAPA — The Bureau for Information's unrest report for the 24-hour period ended yesterday:

"Unrest-related incidents reported during the above-mentioned period comprised isolated stoning and petrol bomb incidents.

"In a stoning incident in KwaMashu (Durban) two black youths were arrested under the emergency regulations. In another incident in Evaton (Vereeniging) a private vehicle was seriously damaged by fire. Damage in the other cases was indicated as being minimal. No injuries were reported."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB020640[Editorial Report]

CITIZEN Urges NP Support

"Nobody should doubt the importance of this poll, even though the Independents, the Progressive Federal Party and the Conservative Party are merely trying to consolidate their position for the 1989 election, which they regard as the crucial one," notes the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 1 April. "If we were to sum up the position, we would say if you want reform, the party that has the power to introduce reform is the NP and you should support it. If you want a return to apartheid in a world which will no longer accept it (and Blacks won't accept it either), then you will vote CP or HNP. If you want to place your future in the hands of a party that is financed by Big Money, that is soft on law and order, that wants the ANC unbanned and talks to that terrorist organisation, and if you want black majority rule, then you will vote PFP." "For our money, we reject both the Left and the Right and urge support for the NP — the party for reform without surrender."

STAR Urges Reform Alliance Pressure on NP

"The Government talks of wanting a mandate to negotiate a new 'dispensation' for blacks. Even though there is a question mark over the sincerity of its 'power-sharing' aims, at least it has advanced sufficiently to accept that 75 percent of the population can't simply be excluded," says Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 1 April in a page 14 editorial. The paper says the Left must place pressure on the government. "With the Right in disarray, there is no excuse for heel-dragging on reform. The Government has lost so much momentum that it has a major problem in finding black leaders to talk to. The Reform Alliance must use this election campaign to gather votes and seats that will demonstrate the real mood of the white community. Only then can we begin to negotiate a future."

BUSINESS DAY on Need for New Industrial Policy

"With gold output now running at about 68 percent of what it was in 1970, and despite the possibility of rising gold revenues in the immediate future, the need for a new industrial policy from government is greater than ever," notes a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 1 April. The paper points out that fast growing emergent countries of the Far East "have shown that the route to true wealth lies in industrialisation." "SA badly needs an industrial strategy to emulate them." Three ingredients of this strategy are: education, low taxation, and an end to bureaucratic obstacles to the development of business.

SOWETAN on Black Housing

"If the type of pressure that is being put on unfortunate squatters in various parts of the country has anything to do with the Government's much vaunted orderly urbanisation scheme, then we can only despair at such short-sightedness," says Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 1 April in its page 6 editorial. "While town councils in various townships are getting tough on people who are squatting, it is often forgotten that there has not been a decent housing scheme for blacks in the urban areas for more than 15 years." "It is about time that some serious thinking was put into the problem of black housing. There are solutions that have been tried in countries that do not have the complicated race problems South Africa has. The town councils, in their usual shortsightedness believe by using jackboot tactics the problem will resolve itself. It will not."

BEELD on Poet Visa Denial

A page 14 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 1 April says: "We do not agree with the Afrikaans Writers' Guild that the refusal of a visa to Breyten Breytenbach to visit his sick father is election propaganda — because we believe that South African voters cannot be favorably influenced by such behavior." *Beeld* says Breytenbach has "misused every visit to South Africa." "The fact is that he has been hurt more than South Africa. If by refusing him a visa the intention was to deny him a propoganda opportunity, then just the opposite has been achieved. Think of the great headlines open to newspapers abroad: Heartless South African Government Denies Poet Opportunity To Visit Sick Father."

SWAZILAND

Customs Deposits Cut Off RSA-Mozambique Freight

MB011808 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 1 Apr 87 p 3

[By Hamish McIndoe]

[Text] Virtually no South African goods are entering Mozambique after Swaziland's imposition of stringent trade levies late last week.

Road hauliers have boycotted the Maputo run after a Swazi crack-down on an SA exporters' racket in the kingdom.

Mbabane customs is demanding refundable deposits of up to 40 percent on the value of Maputo-bound goods to stop exporters selling at higher prices in Swaziland.

The scam also avoids paying a 10 percent sales tax in Swaziland.

Says haulier Tony Sedgwick: "I've no intention of paying and exporters are very reluctant to lodge deposit of up to R60,000 on a load."

The deposits are cutting deeply into the hauliers' pockets — one company says it is losing R20,000 a week in revenue.

A ministerial note sent by the Department of Trade and Industries asking Swazi authorities to clarify the situation has not been answered. Swaziland's action may violate the Customs Union Agreement, but Pretoria has no formal leverage to stop the kingdom imposing the deposit.

Apparently the only SA goods to reach Maputo this week was a consignment of potato seed. The haulier used the Komatipoort route to avoid Swaziland, but the level of banditry in the area makes it a highly unpopular route.

And SATS' [South African Transport Services] daily Komatipoort-Maputo rail service is not heavily used. SATS spokesman Frikkie Stevenson said: "The service is very low at the moment."

Jap International Carriers MD [Managing Director] Peter Webb said hauliers were reluctant to switch to rail. "Too much gets stolen on the line — especially foodstuffs."

It costs R2,000-R3,000 to send a 25-ton truck from Johannesburg to Maputo.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe on Sanctions, Constitution, Economy

MB011640 Harare Domestic Service in English
1220 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's question and answer session in the House of Assembly, chaired by Speaker Didymus Mutasa — live]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted]

[Mutasa] Comrade (Mutani)

[(Mutani)] [Question indistinct]

[Mutasa] The honorable prime minister?

[Mugabe] Thank you, Mr Speaker, sir. Let people not be deceived by what outside papers and other misguided persons are publishing or talking about. (?We) will implement our own package of sanctions (?made with) Zambia against South Africa. I mentioned in my end of the year speech that we have had to postpone, because certain arrangements (?must) be in place before we implement the sanctions. We are still working at these arrangements. As soon as we are ready, we will let the people know. And so, the sanctions are coming. We hope that businessmen and other importers are adjusting. This time they have had should have enabled them to make the necessary reductions in regard to imports from South Africa. If they have not, they are acting foolishly. [passage omitted]

[Mutasa] Comrade (Maluleke)

[(Maluleke)] Thank you, Comrade Speaker. Comrade [words indistinct] constitution provides that the House of Assembly should consist of 100 members [words indistinct] with schedule [word indistinct] for elections in the House of Assembly of whom 80 should be elected by [word indistinct] registered voters [words indistinct] 20 shall be elected by [words indistinct] registered on the white [words indistinct]. Now in view of the fact that the [word indistinct] of the 20 reserved white seats has expired, will the honorable prime minister tell this house when [word indistinct] effective date for removal of the 20 white (?seats) [words indistinct]?

[Mugabe] Well, the constitutional period in fact has not yet expired but is about to expire [laughter], and even before it has expired the minister of justice, legal, and parliamentary affairs has an assignment from us to examine ways and means of amending the Constitution so that there is greater democracy given to the population and the 20 white seats are abolished. This is an exercise we will carry out, and carry out as objectively as possible. We would want to ensure that at the end of it there will be a democratic practice [words indistinct] in the country. And so I can assure you that we are looking at it and that we will certainly proceed to amend that discrimination in our constitution.

[Mutasa] Mr (Becker)

[(Becker)] [Question indistinct]?

[Mutasa] The honorable prime minister?

[Mugabe] I am surprised, Mr Speaker, sir, that the honorable member should be talking of proceeding to establish an open economy. We have an open economy just now, and perhaps that is why we are having problems. [laughter] We are far too open, and we should close in a little. I don't see what purpose will be served by establishing a [word indistinct] committee that [words indistinct]. If it is an economic commission which will examine the economic situation then that is a different matter. But to establish and to finance a commission, the terms of reference would have to relate to finance and financial objectives. The honorable member [words indistinct] would want us to have an entire or absolute capitalist system. We are more capitalist than socialist at the moment, and no one can ever say that as we are today Zimbabwe is a socialist state. We have socialist objectives, ideas, and gradually, of course, we are getting to implement them. But we are far from establishing a socialist society. Let the honorable member who is for capitalism be thankful that we have to this day respected his own ideological belief [laughter] and kind of relegated our own.

But I do not believe that an economic commission will do us any good. There may be some advantage in establishing it. Well, I think the issues that concern us are quite clear. Where we do not seem to be clear about what the problem is, perhaps a commission could help unravel the problem. But I think we know what the problem is. We know that in spite of our endeavors over the last 7 years, there has been world recession, the depressed market. The prices of our commodities are very low, and there is very little we can do to improve that situation abroad. We'll just wait for the international economic situation to improve.

Then we have the drought, and I don't know whether the economic commission could evolve some divine instrument to ease the drought. But I haven't heard of any such sacred instrument. And these are some of the problems; and then the lack of [words indistinct]. Yes we might have a [words indistinct] to investment, foreign investment. But foreign investment has also its own problems. At the moment, I think, of all countries in southern Africa, except South Africa, we have the burden of a greater foreign investment which is an advantage for [words indistinct] an advantage of a greater [words indistinct] share of foreign investment. Is that to our benefit? Will it be our benefit to open our doors and accept anybody who comes into the country, regardless of the area and crucial nature of the enterprise that he would want to establish; to establish himself against [words indistinct]? Let it not be forgotten that investment does not come by way of charity or generousity. (?If we) open our doors wide, these are the most favorable of terms that investment [words indistinct]. We do not just go fishing and put the bait on the hook from nothing. We want to eat out of the country's profits abroad. This means, actually, the remission of our own resources abroad — the gold we mine, the other minerals we mine. We are (?pushing) our burden [words indistinct] of the country. Some say the advantage is that, well, at least we remain with the infrastructure; at least we have employment.

So these are some of the problems that arise, and there may be advantages. But I can assure you that even with foreign investment coming at quite a high level and in greater volume, perhaps the situation may not be as [word indistinct] as we would want to see it. But let's go out, using our own resources, no matter how limited those resources are, to develop our own country. Agriculture has been doing well [words indistinct] agriculture, but over the last year there was certainly an improvement. And the mining sector, depending also on the world price situation, of course, has been developing. If the honorable member would suggest that, given our own resources, let's open up more mines, let's improve on our agriculture, let us expand our own industrial performance and look at new avenues where we can establish manufacturing enterprises, I would go along with that. But to look at the outside world as a savior of Zimbabwe I think is the wrong approach altogether. Thank you.

[Mutasa] Comrade (Mashinga)

[(Mashinga)] Comrade Prime Minister, Zimbabwe, alongside other progressive member-states of the international community, is going to apply comprehensive sanctions against apartheid-ruled South Africa. What effect will the sanctions have on the substantial number of Zimbabweans who are currently studying by correspondence for their academic and professional careers with institutions inside South Africa, or institutions based in Zimbabwe but are from South Africa?

[Mutasa] The honorable prime minister?

[Mugabe] In view of our program of sanctions against South Africa, studies by correspondence with UNISA [University of South Africa] [words indistinct] but that is all that he is asking, actually. To date we have done nothing about it. We have not in fact mentioned that as part of our sanctions. I know that there are many people who are students of UNISA, and they are pursuing their studies. We have not tried to disrupt their studies, nor shall we try to do so. But of course we would want to encourage our own students, I mean our own people, to study with our own university and enroll with the University of Zimbabwe. But of course the university is also expected to expand its own facilities for part-time students. If we will take any steps in that direction, which I doubt, there can always be [word indistinct] with the University of London and a shift to that university will not do the honorable member and others any harm.

[Mutasa] Comrade Machaya

[Machaya] Thank you, Mr Speaker, sir. In view of some commitment by some leaders of the white community who are (?all) over there to support apartheid, support South Africa on its apartheid and distabilization policy, won't our government consider removing all benefits, especially benefits to pensioners who are now in South Africa and are now agents of this destabilization policy [words indistinct] on their payroll, and using those funds to support our corridor — our Beira route and others [words indistinct]?

[Mutasa] The prime minister?

[Mugabe] Thank you, Mr Speaker, sir. The question is a little complex, but I think it boils down to whether our government will consider stopping the payment of pensions to pensioners in South Africa, and that is because those who are purportedly working together with them [words indistinct] have made pronouncements in support of South Africa and its destabilization policy. Well, I don't think it would be fair to tarnish those pensioners merely because Ian Smith or a handful of CAZ [Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe] members have made statements supporting South Africa. I think if the question of deciding [word indistinct] people will benefit because of [word indistinct] statements arising, it should be specifically at Ian Smith. I understand that there have been debates in parliament here on whether we should not deprive Ian Smith of his seat. Now my view is really that depriving him of his seat is not enough, because he will still have his head on him. [laughter] As long as he continues to have his head on him, he will continue to wag his tongue and tail in arrogance and insulting everybody. I think we should consider whether he actually deserves to carry his head or not. [laughter] But that would be a sounder, a much sounder mission, and I would support it as prime minister. [laughter] Similarly, if individuals, individual members within CAZ make pronouncements that are in support of South Africa, why should we not look at them as individuals, and seriously see whether in fact we should continue to have them as in the country, where they should continue to enjoy the benefits that free Zimbabwe accords them? So, we will not address the question of pensioners in the context of adverse pronouncements, statements by CAZ. We will address that question in the context of sanctions against South Africa [words indistinct]. Thank you. [passage omitted]

[Mutasa] Comrade (Stolo).

[(Stolo)] Mr Speaker, will the honorable prime minister tell this house what action [words indistinct] intends to recommend to the Preferencial Trade Area [PTA] [words indistinct] against Britain for her [words indistinct] stand on economic sanctions against South Africa?

[Mutasa] The honorable prime minister?

[Mugabe] Thank you, Mr Speaker. The honorable member is raising the issue of whether we should impose sanctions against Britain because of its stand on the South African issue. Well, the SADCC countries themselves, or not all of them, are in a position to impose sanctions against South Africa, and I [word indistinct] see them all decide to impose sanctions against South Africa. [Words indistinct] we are not all imposing sanctions against South Africa, and why should you expect us to do so? [Passage indistinct] Britain, which is a great nation, and which really should have the primary responsibility to remedy the injustice in South Africa is unwilling to be counted among the [words indistinct] that are taking action against South Africa. We will raise this issue in the forum of the Commonwealth Conference, in the summit meeting of the heads of state and government which will be held in Vancouver later this year. South Africa will obviously be one the political questions we will address. But I don't see any purpose to be served by beginning an exercise which really might be counterproductive — of persuading SADCC or PTA members to take action against Britain. [passage omitted] [passage indistinct]

[Mugabe] [Words indistinct] I did not suggest that there would be conscription in general of [break in transmission] will accept only those who will not have done well at O levels. I never said such a thing. Every child who will have done all the 4-year course O levels will be required as part of his education and exercise at developing the individual to undergo a program of national service. And national service is not just a [words indistinct], but it can also [word indistinct] over and above military training, serving the nation in one respect or another: being recruited as a teacher for a given period, helping in hospitals or elsewhere where government feels that the individual is rendering a service to the nation, so as to develop in the individual a commitment to the nation and a commitment to others. We are not recruiting people to go to war in Mozambique. No. We are developing our young sons and daughters so they grow up with a deepened degree of loyalty and commitment to their country. This is what we would want to do. We are still working out the program. What I have in mind is that they do, say, a 6-month period, that I have suggested formally, a 6-month period training. [partially indistinct passage omitted]

Can they be assured of a continued program of education? Yes, we would want to make it as convenient as possible so they can continue their program of education, that is, those who would want to continue after O levels. Those who go into vocational training will also be allowed to do so. The teachers will then be drafted into colleges; those who will have been admitted into schools, technical courses, agricultural schools will similarly do that way. Those others [words indistinct] employment in industry will be allowed to take up their jobs, and apprentices of course similarly will continue their programs.

I shall not guarantee that at the end of that period they will secure employment. The issue of employment is a national one which we are addressing, as I said earlier, under the 5-year plan: Should there be jobs? Why shouldn't there be jobs? But of course we will also examine whether we couldn't draft some of them into cooperatives, into agriculture. There is a vast area there for employment. We have got to atune the minds of our youngsters to do jobs which perhaps they resent because they are not white collar jobs. They [words indistinct] agriculture is hard going, and it makes your hands dirty [words indistinct], and with proper training I think we can [words indistinct] some elements into agriculture or other training in other avenues of employment along other sectors.

So this, Mr Speaker, and honorable members, is what we had in mind — providing a period after Form 4 to develop a sense of commitment and [word indistinct] on the part of our young generation, who will then tomorrow take over [word indistinct] and will not have to look for [word indistinct]. They must have the necessary commitment and atunement to the problems of the country, especially in regard to the security of the country [words indistinct]. [passage omitted containing partially indistinct portions on skills training in rural areas]

House Speaker Asserts Right To Act Against Smith

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[Text] The speaker of the House of Assembly, Comrade Didymus Mutasa, has told the House that it has the right to take action against CAZ [Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe] leader Ian Smith should it decide to do so. Comrade Mutasa was commenting on a motion which calls for the condemnation of Ian Smith for his utterances in South Africa in support of racist policies and opposition to sanctions against it.